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SEGA®

KNUCKLES™

THE ECHIDNA

APPROVED
BY THE
COMICS
CODE
AUTHORITY



SPAZ / GALAN / PENDERS

**PENDERS • SPAZIANTE • GALAN
GROSSMAN • WILLIAMS • PEPOY**

KNUCKLES™

BOOK SEVEN

DARK VENGEANCE

Part One of Three

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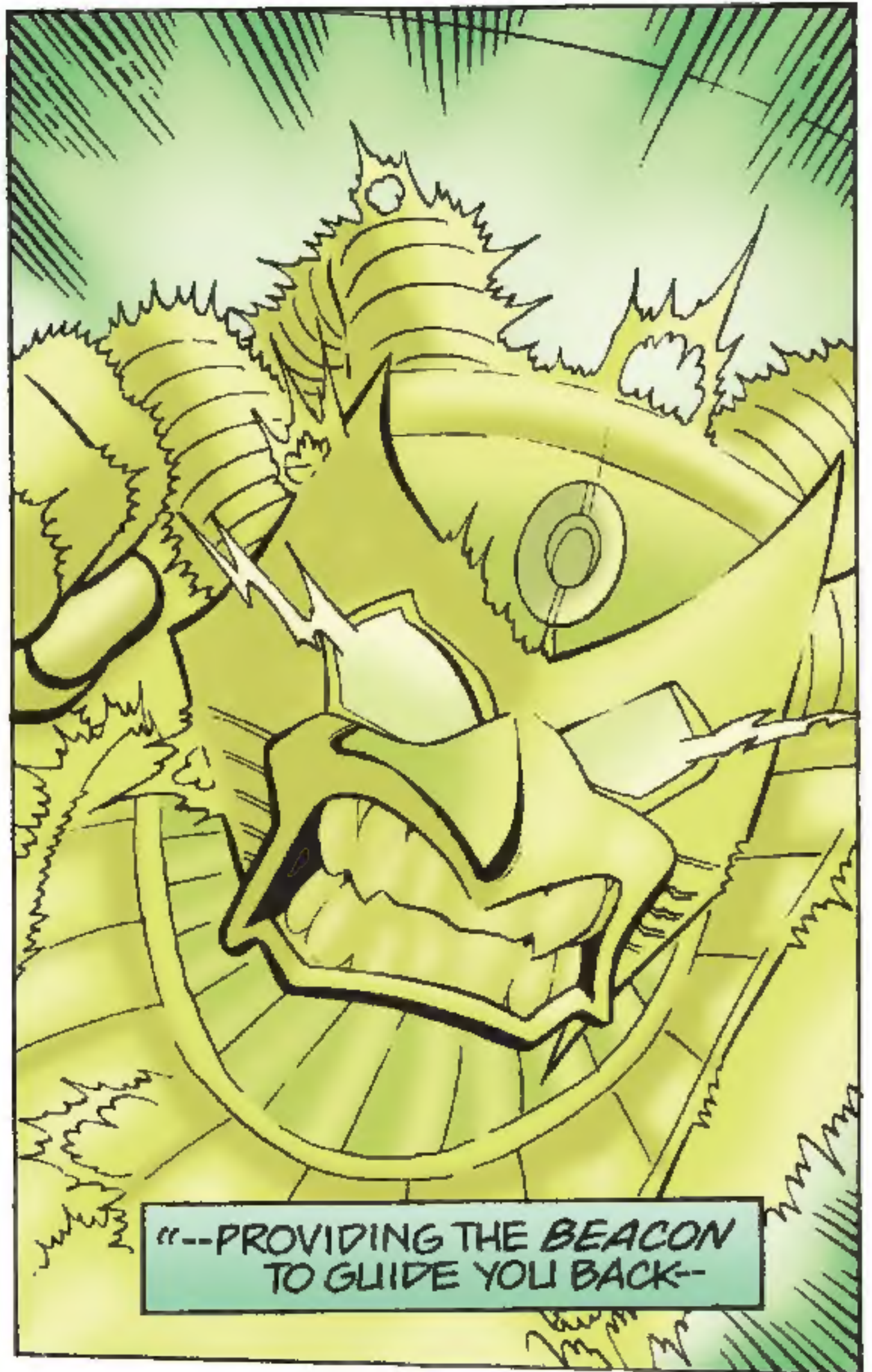
BORN TO THE MOST NOBLE OF ECHIDNA HOUSES, THE LATEST TO CONTINUE THE FAMILY HERITAGE AND RESPONSIBILITY AS GUARDIAN OF THE FLOATING ISLAND, DEFENDER OF ALL FROM THE FORCES OF EVIL FROM THE WORLD BEYOND, AS WELL AS THOSE WHO WOULD THREATEN WITHIN, HE IS NONE OTHER THAN KNUCKLES THE ECHIDNA!

DUE TO HIS RELATIVE YOUTH AND LACK OF EXPERIENCE, KNUCKLES BELIEVED HIS TASK A SIMPLE ONE: DEFEND THE NATIVES OF THE FLOATING ISLAND FROM THOSE WHO WOULD THREATEN IT.

NOW KNUCKLES IS LEARNING THAT HE IS ONE OF MANY OF A LONG LINE WHO HAVE GUARDED THE SAFETY OF HIS PEOPLE. HAVING ONLY RECENTLY BEEN REUNITED WITH HIS PEOPLE (WHO HAD BEEN EXISTING IN ANOTHER DIMENSION) HE IS NO LONGER THE ONLY ONE OF HIS KIND AND IS HAVING A HARD TIME DEALING WITH THE IMPLICATIONS OF THAT FACT.

SINCE THE APPEARANCE OF HIS FIREANT COMPANION, ARCHIMEDES, KNUCKLES HAS BEGUN TO COMPREHEND THAT HIS EXISTENCE IS A LOT MORE COMPLICATED THAN ORIGINALLY BELIEVED. WITH DUTIES AND OBLIGATIONS THAT HAVE BEEN HANDED DOWN FROM ONE GENERATION TO THE NEXT, KNUCKLES IS LEARNING TO DEAL WITH PROBLEMS THAT HAD THEIR ORIGINS LONG AGO.

AS A RESULT, KNUCKLES HAS NEVER BEFORE FACED THE FURY OF SOMEONE BENT ON SEEKING HIS TOTAL AND COMPLETE DESTRUCTION, UNTIL NOW...



DEADLY HOMECOMING

"...SO THAT WE MAY
BOTH ACHIEVE OUR
GREATEST DESIRES!"

--AND WITH THIS
STATUE IN THE IMAGE OF
THE GREAT DIMITRI TO
INSPIRE US--

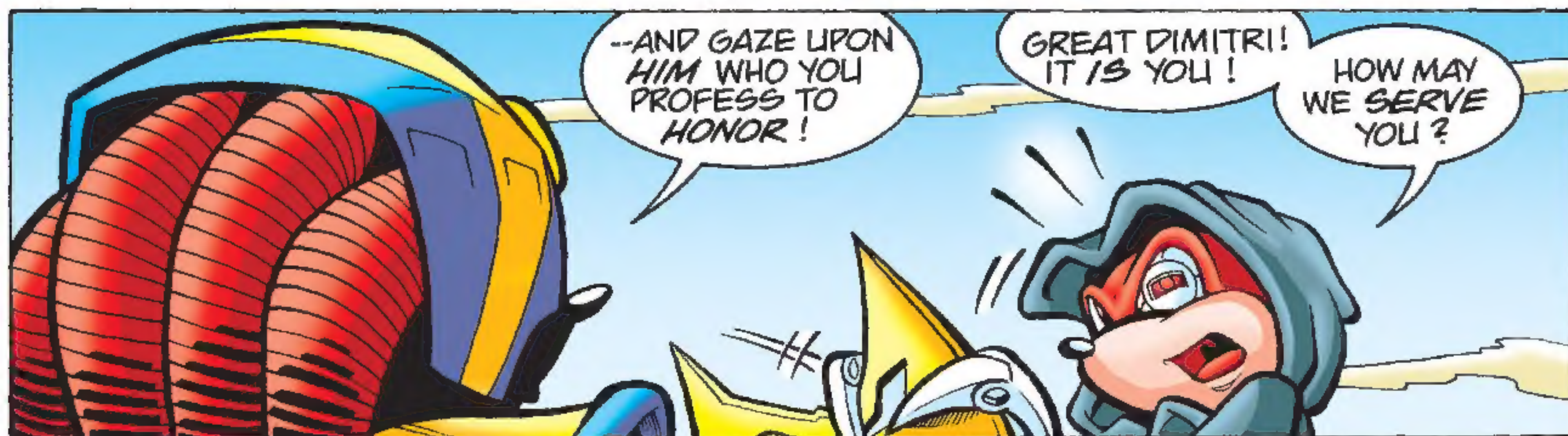
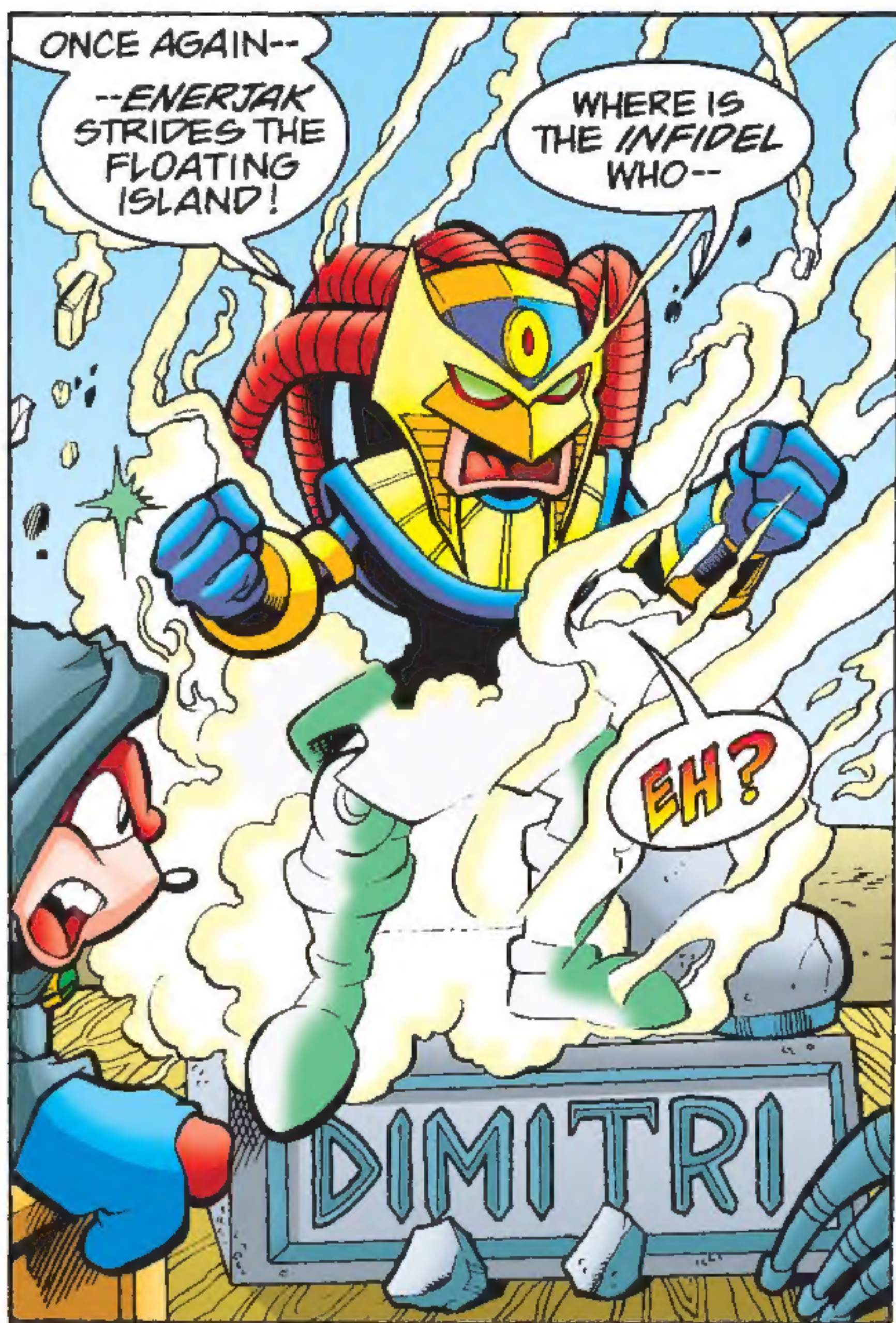
--WE REDEDICATE
OURSELVES TO THE HOLY
TASK OF RESTORING
ECHIDNA SOCIETY TO ITS
NATURAL--

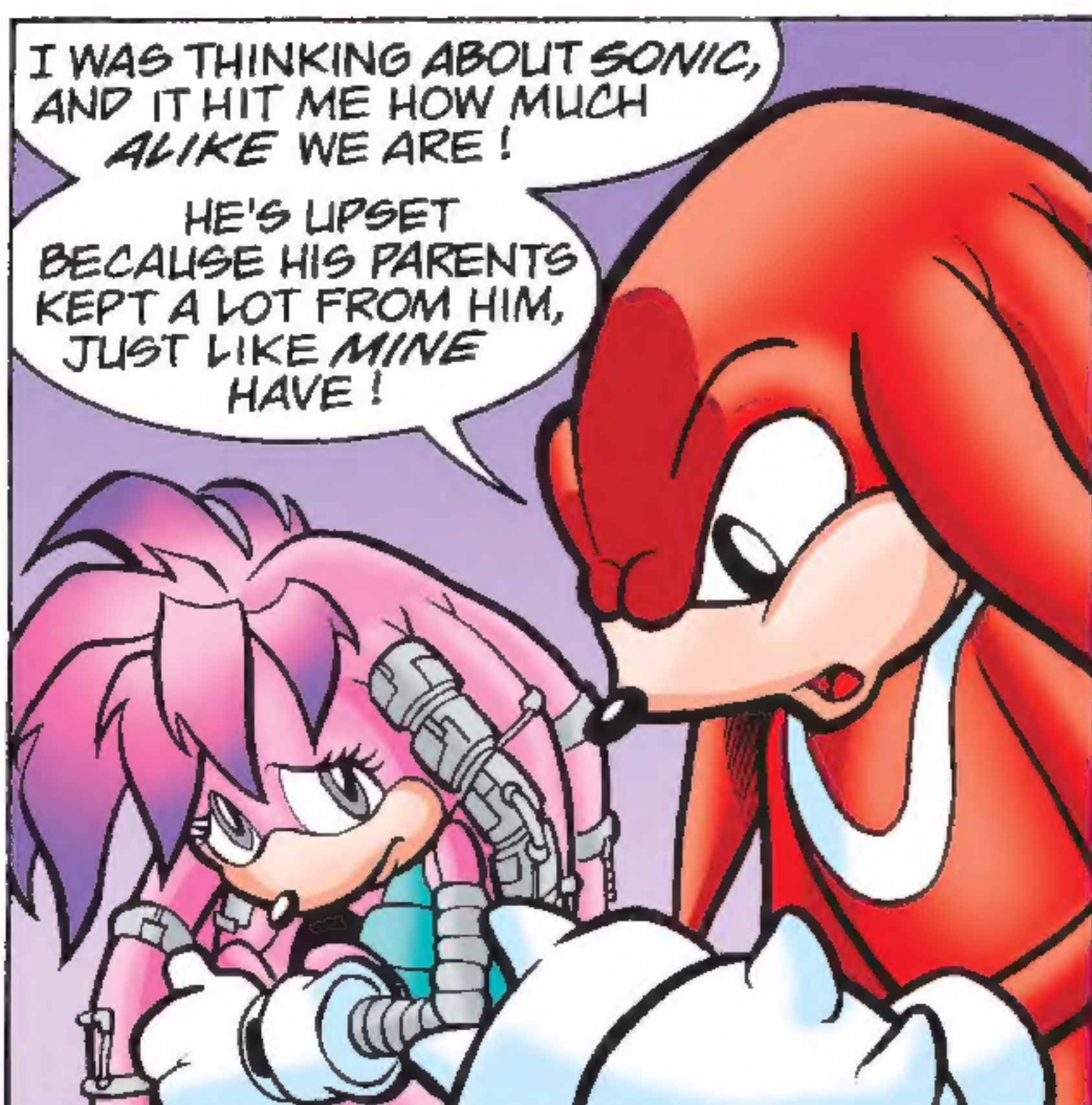
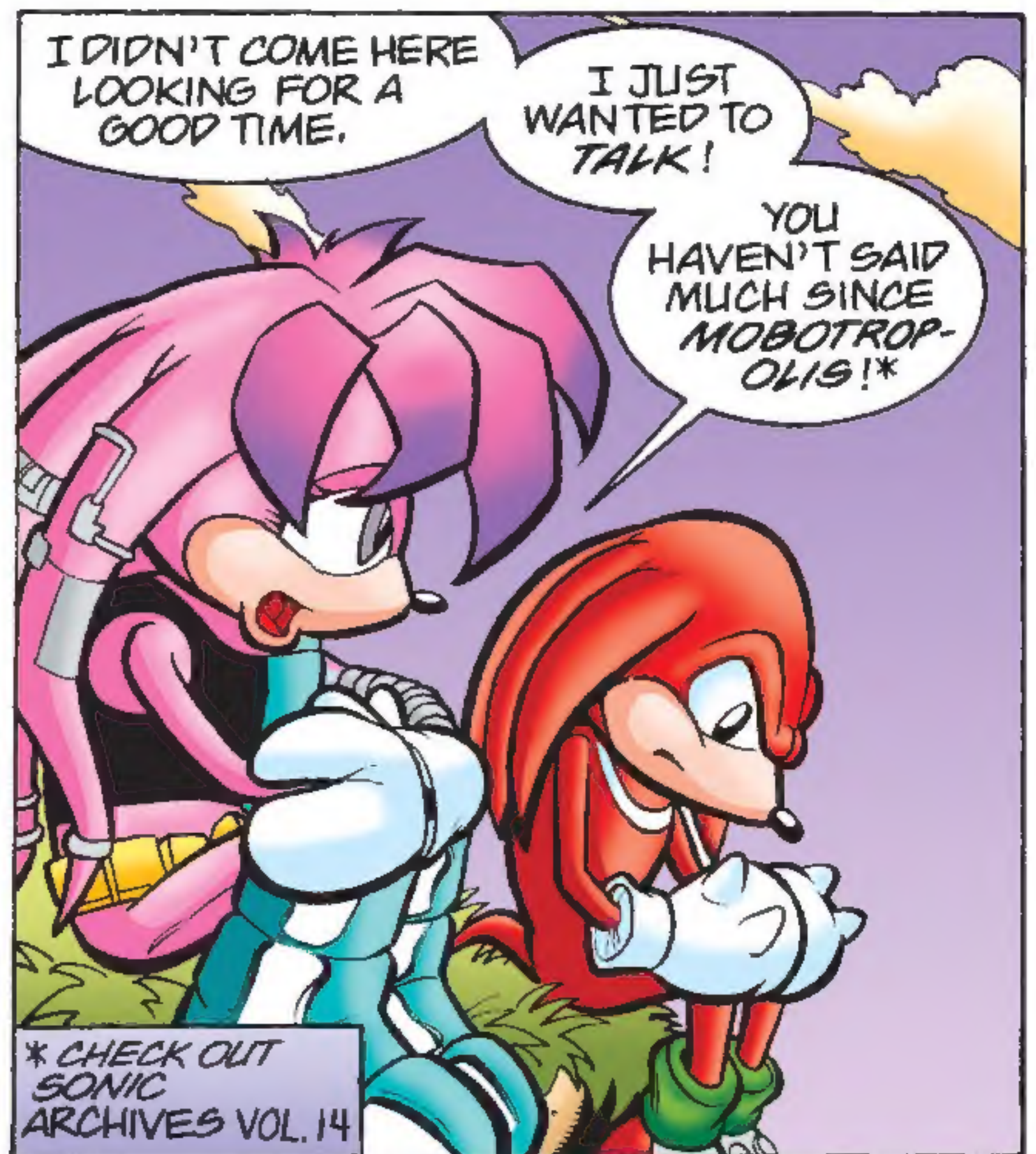
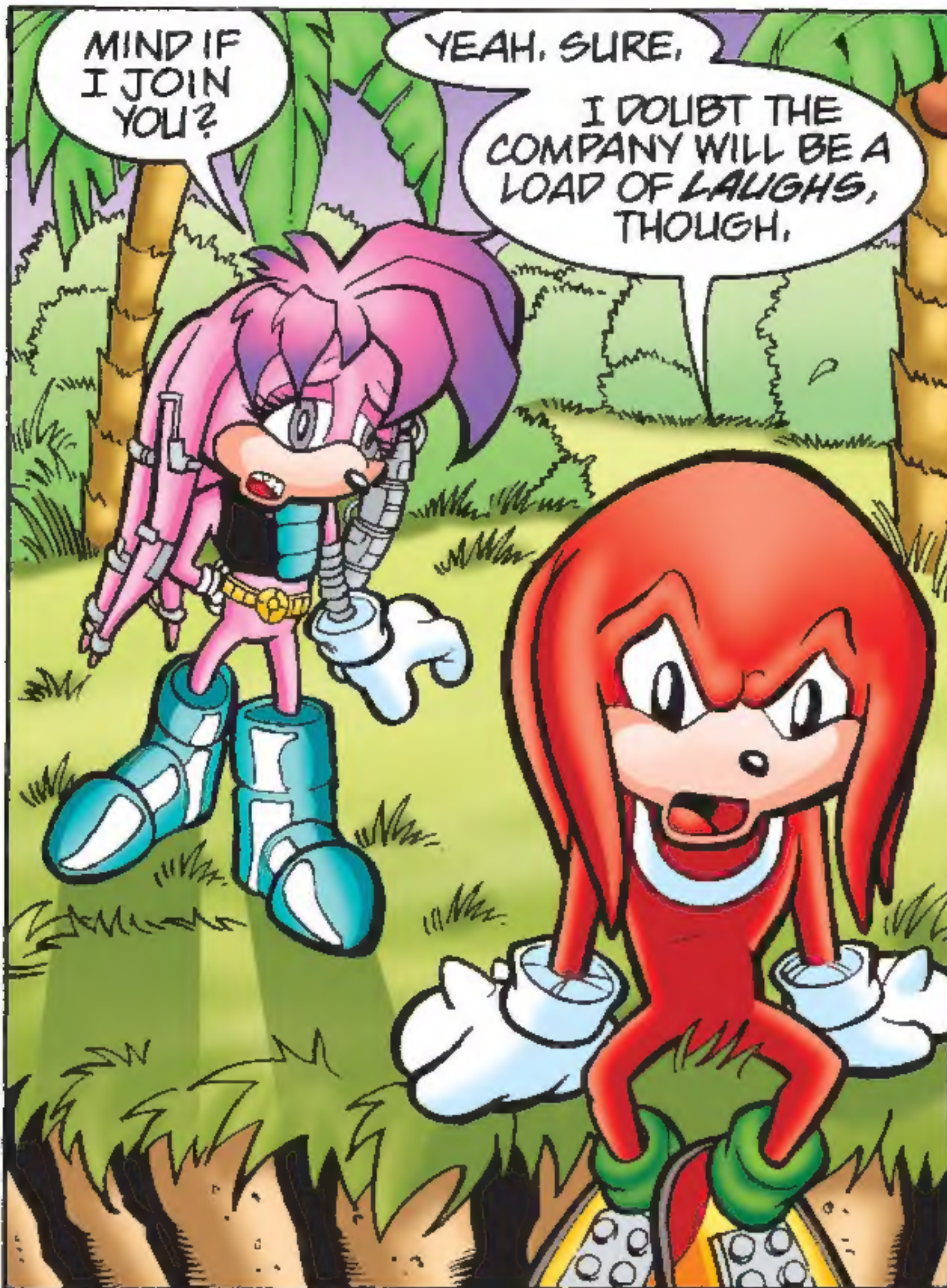
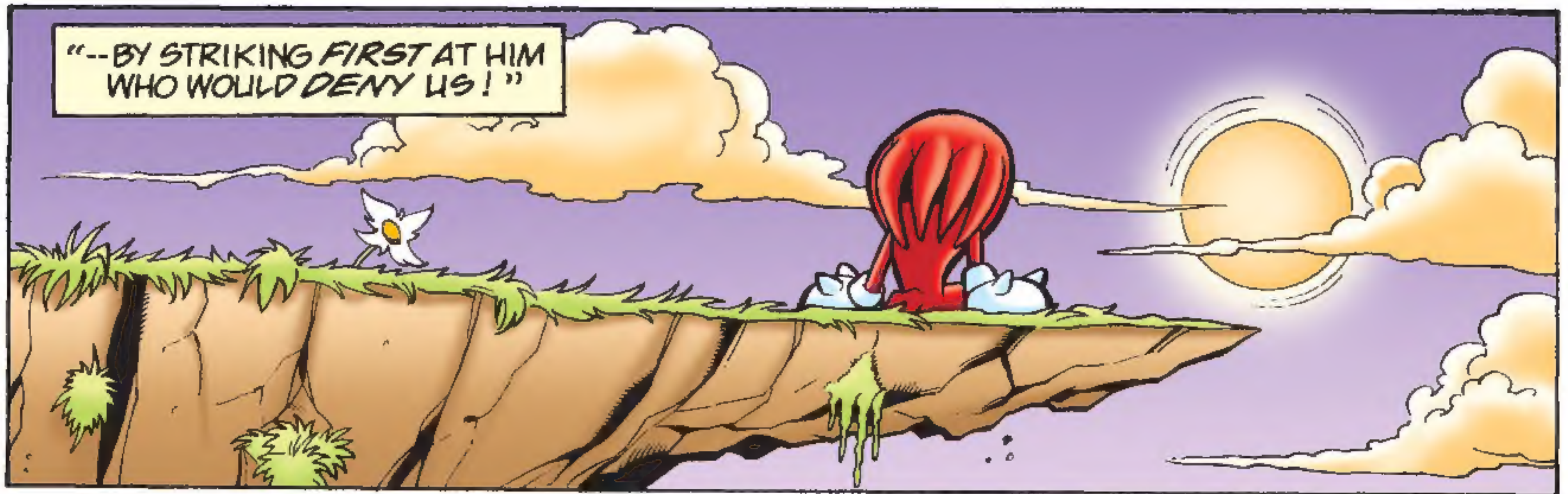
BY AMIL'S
FORCE--!

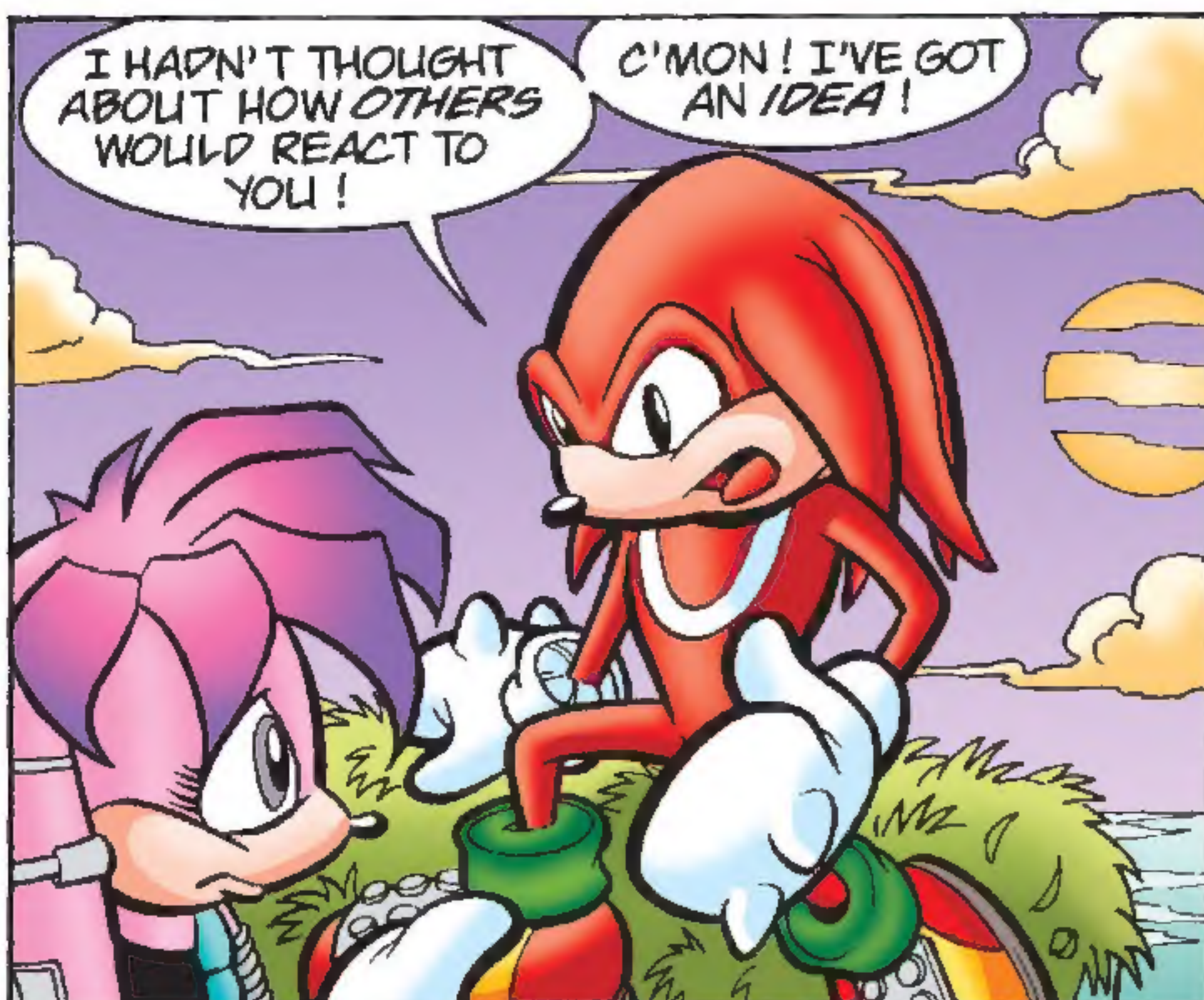
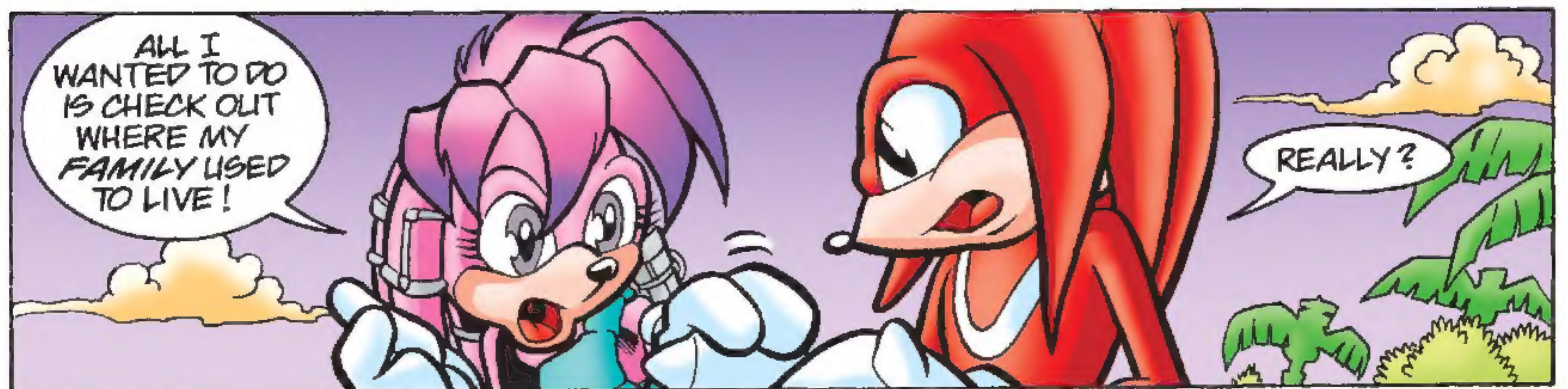
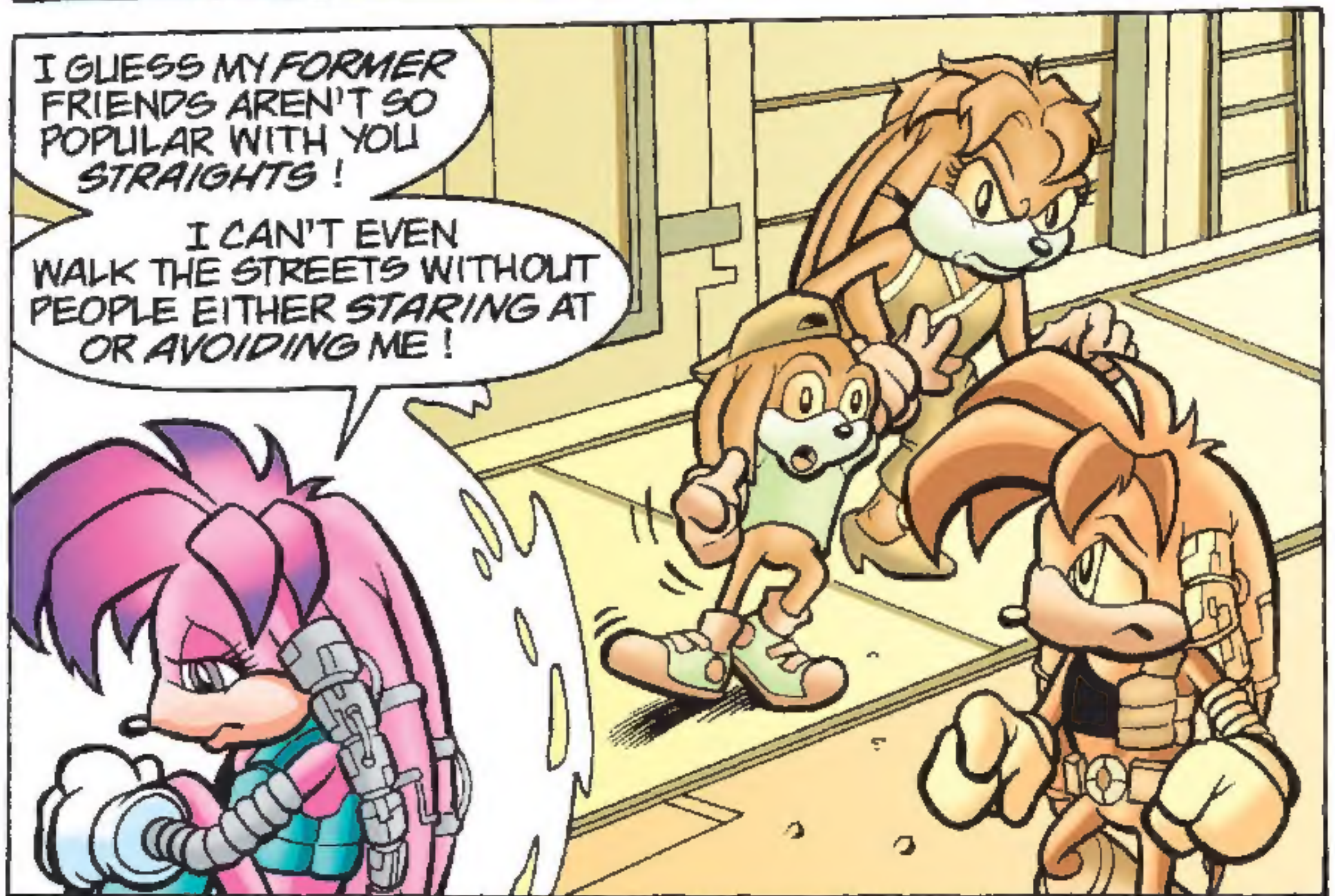
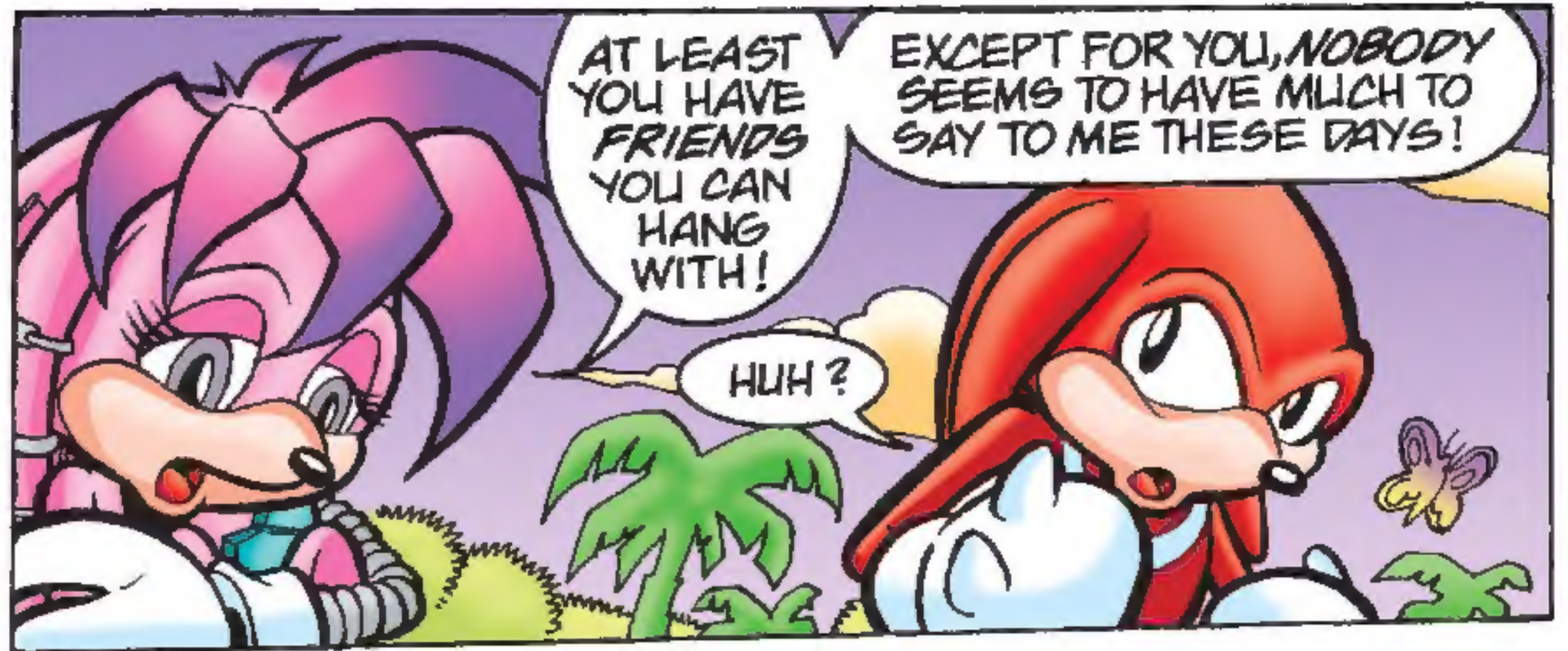
GREAT
DIMITRI'S
STATUE!

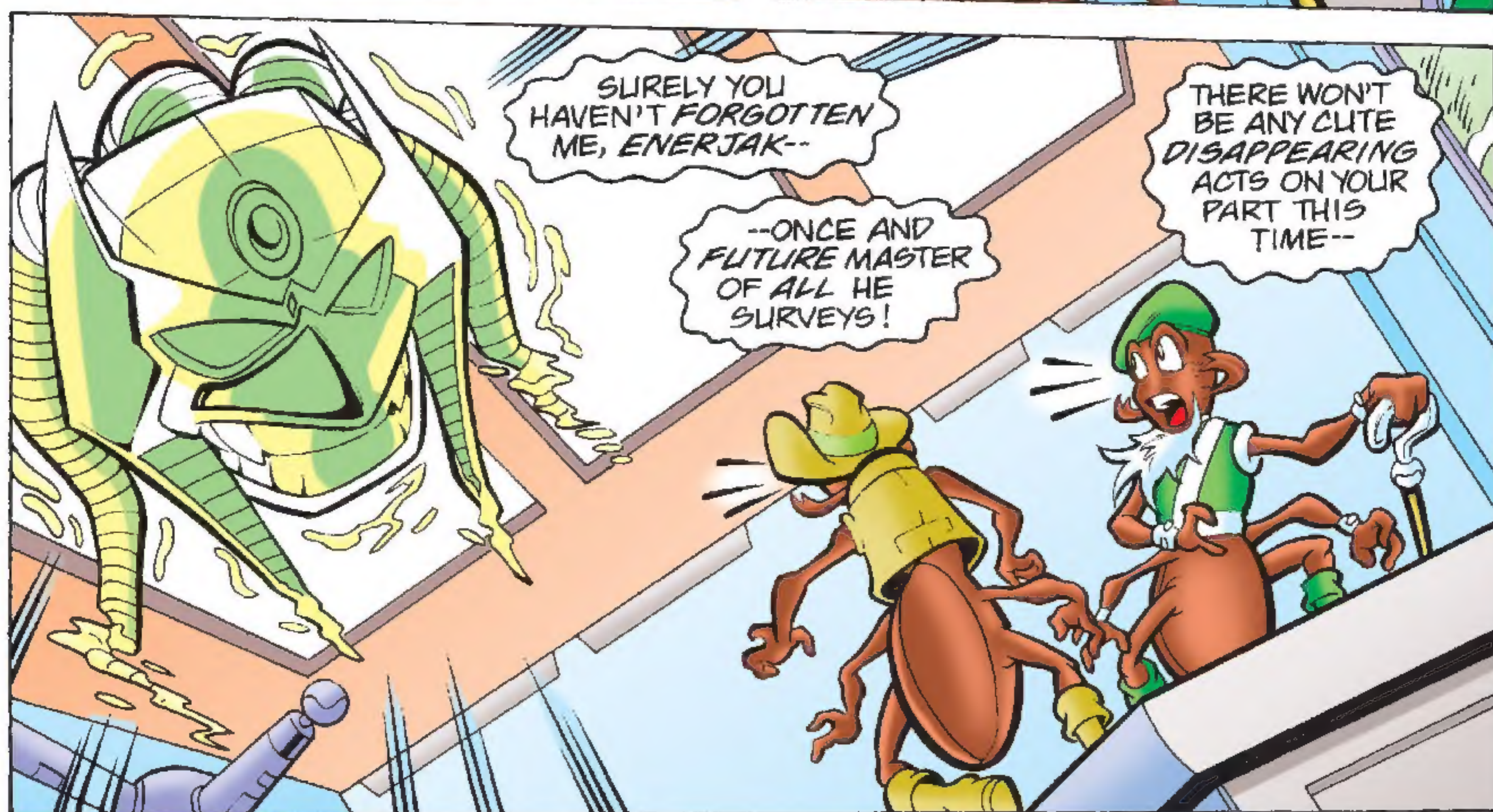
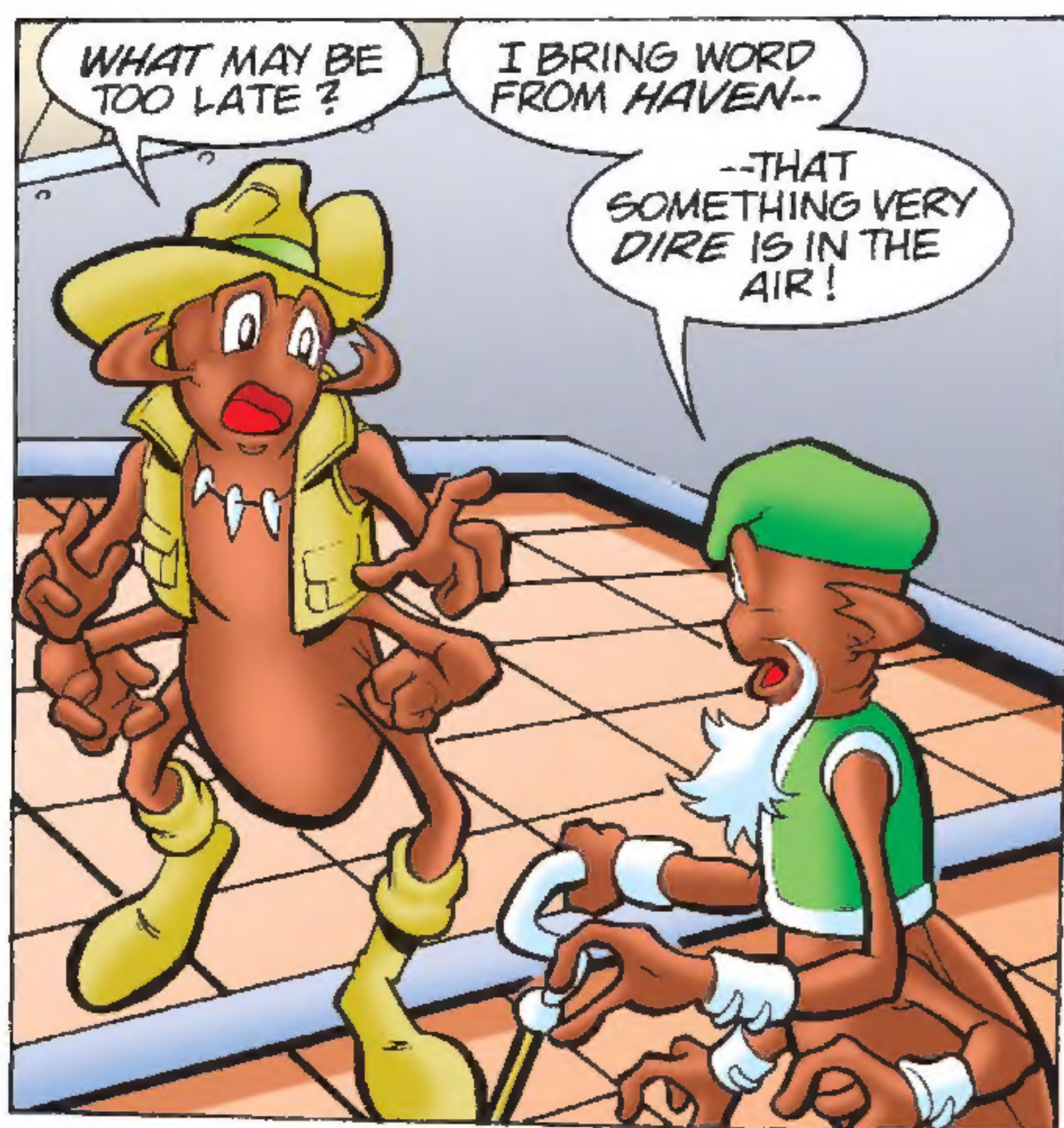
WHO WOULD
DARE--

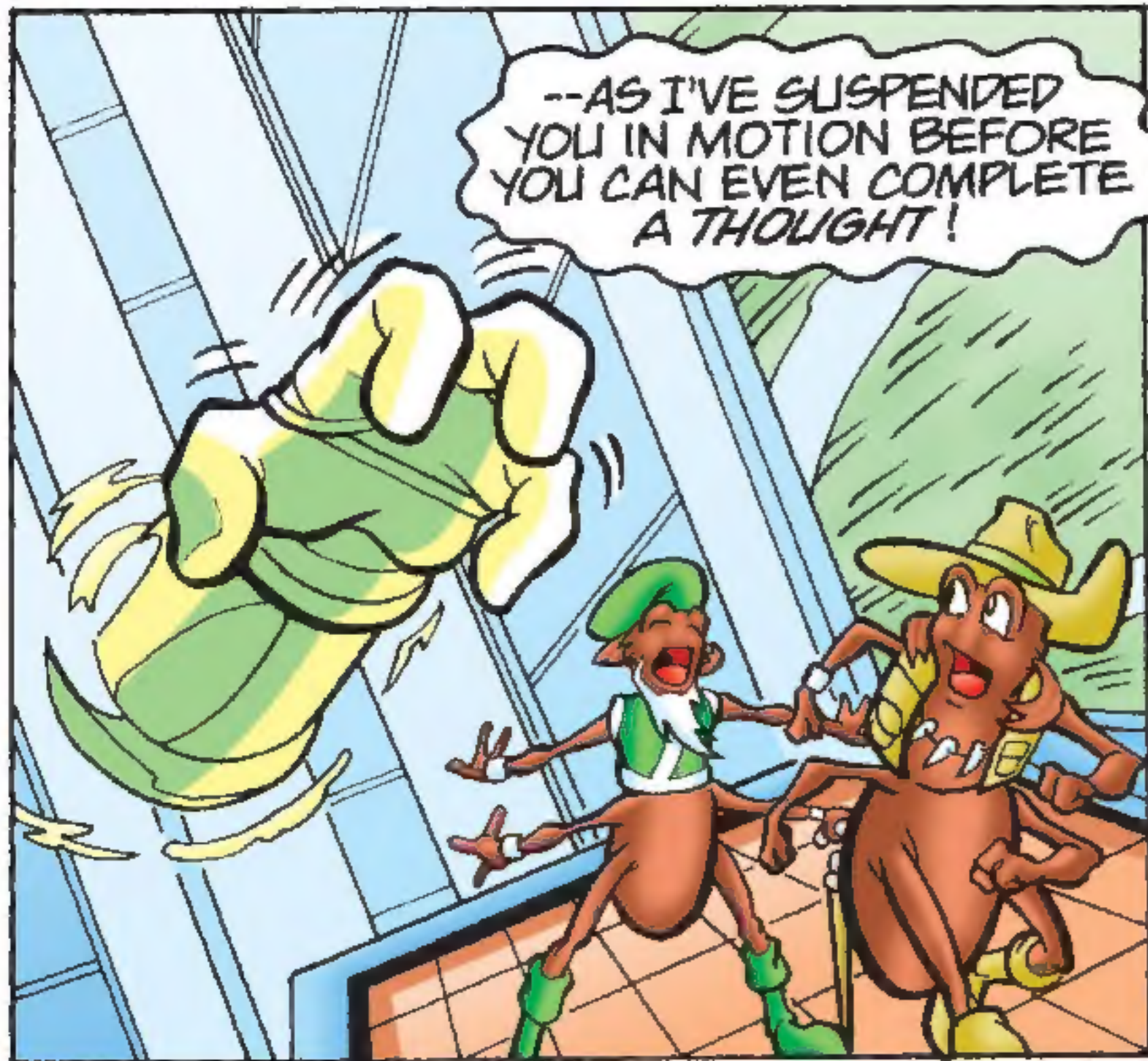
DIMITRI



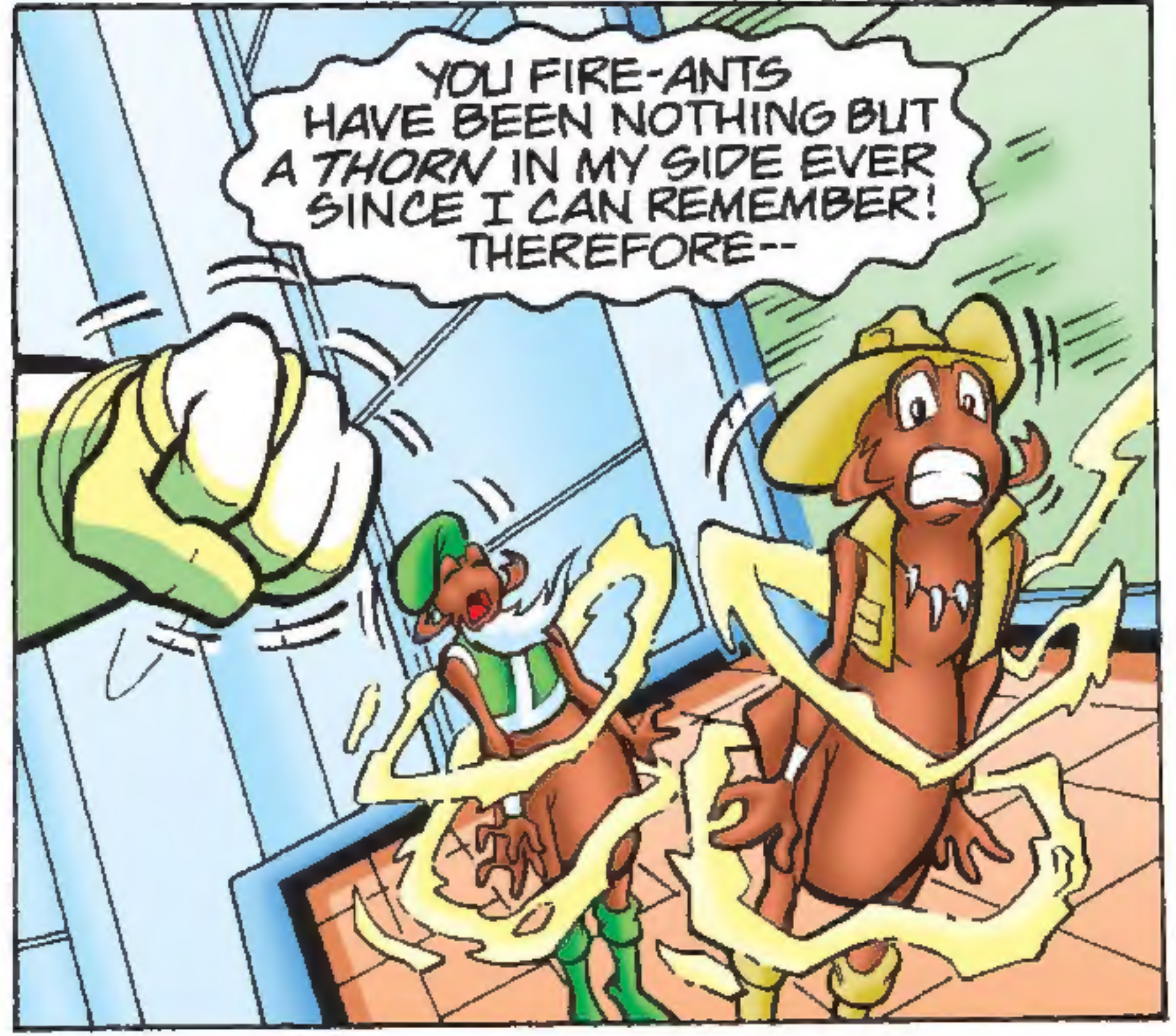








--AS I'VE SUSPENDED
YOU IN MOTION BEFORE
YOU CAN EVEN COMPLETE
A THOUGHT!



YOU FIRE-ANTS
HAVE BEEN NOTHING BUT
A THORN IN MY SIDE EVER
SINCE I CAN REMEMBER!
THEREFORE--

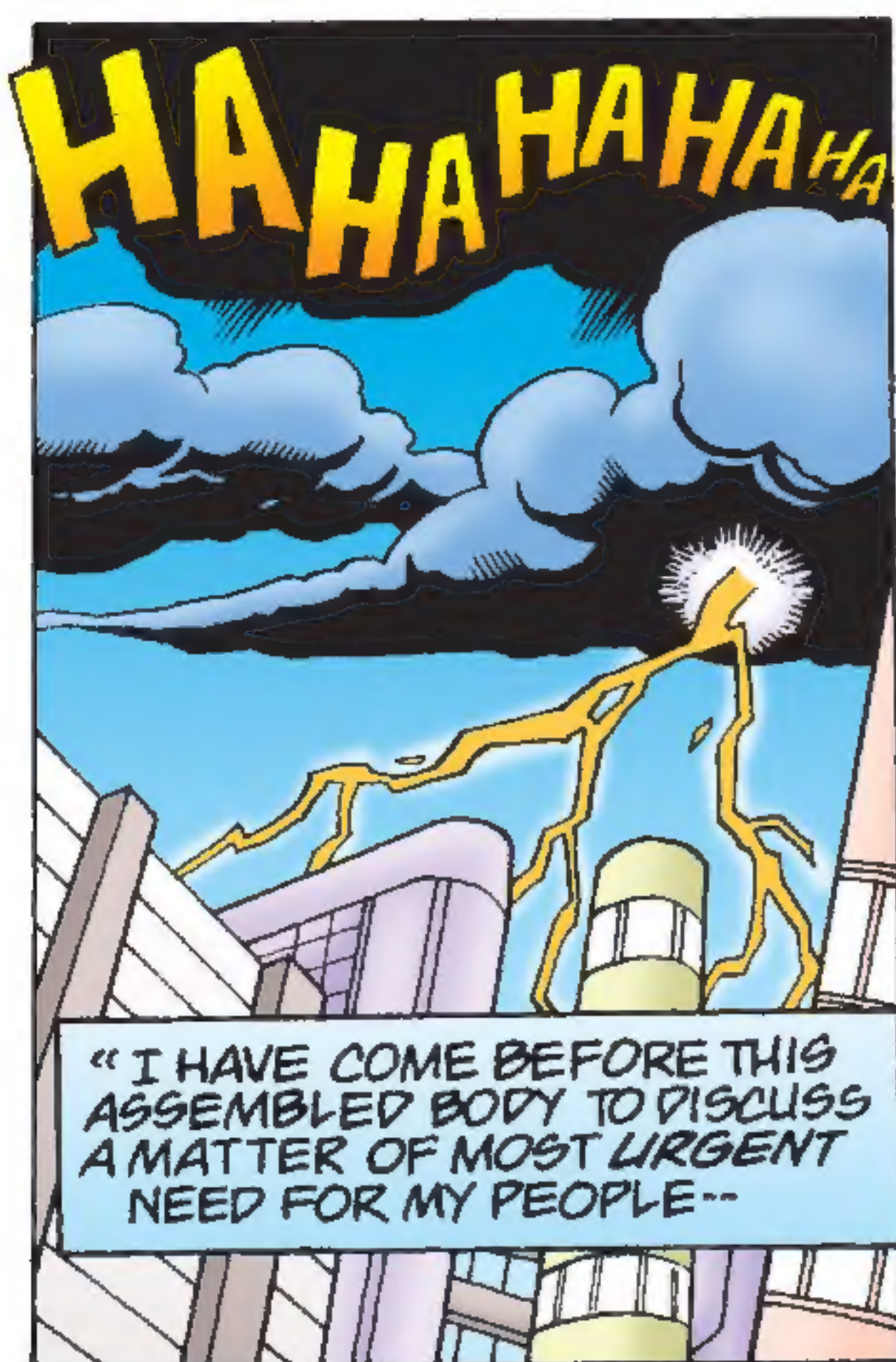


--I THINK IT'S
TIME I RETURN
THE FAVOR!

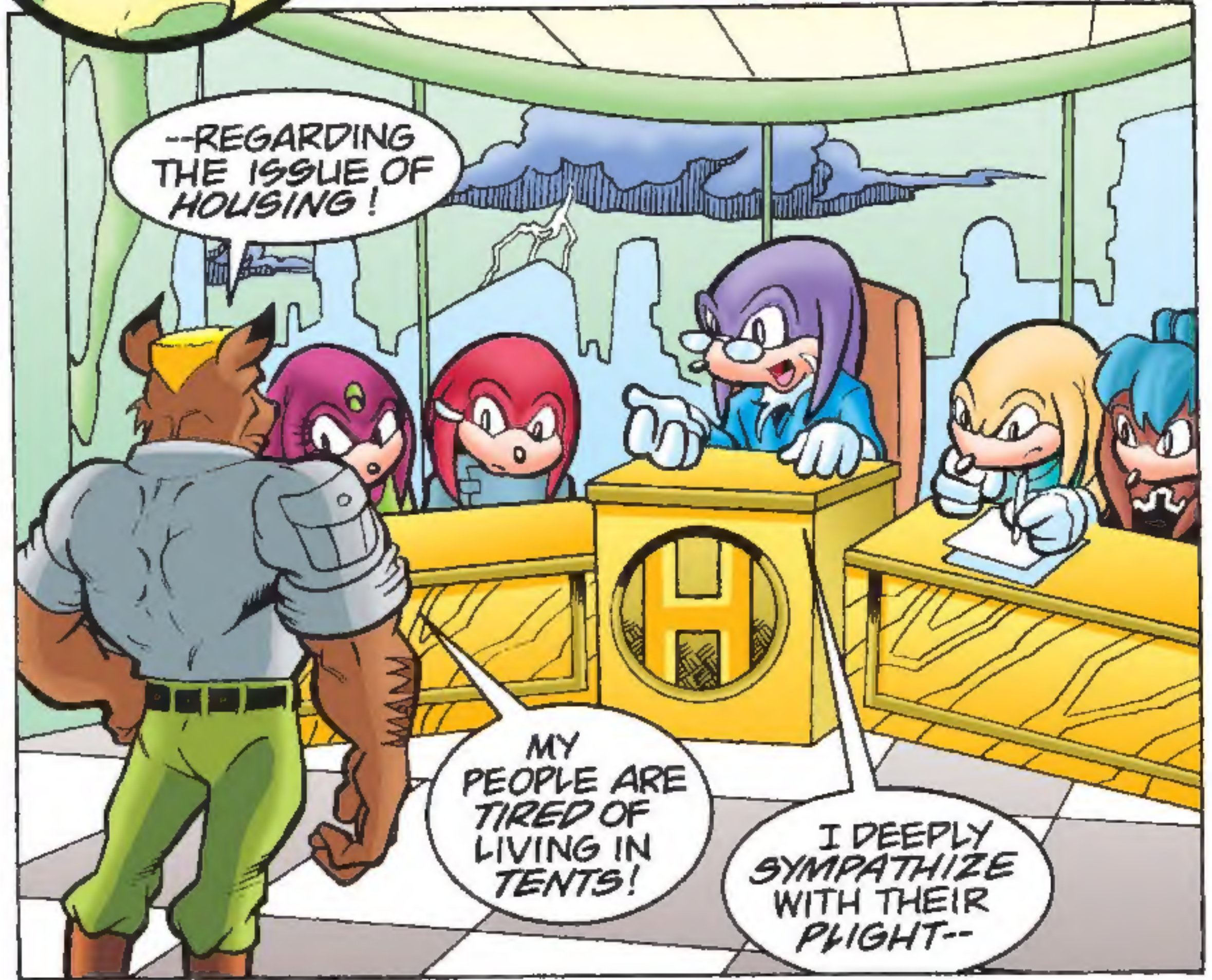
AND THIS--



--THIS IS ONLY
THE BEGINNING!



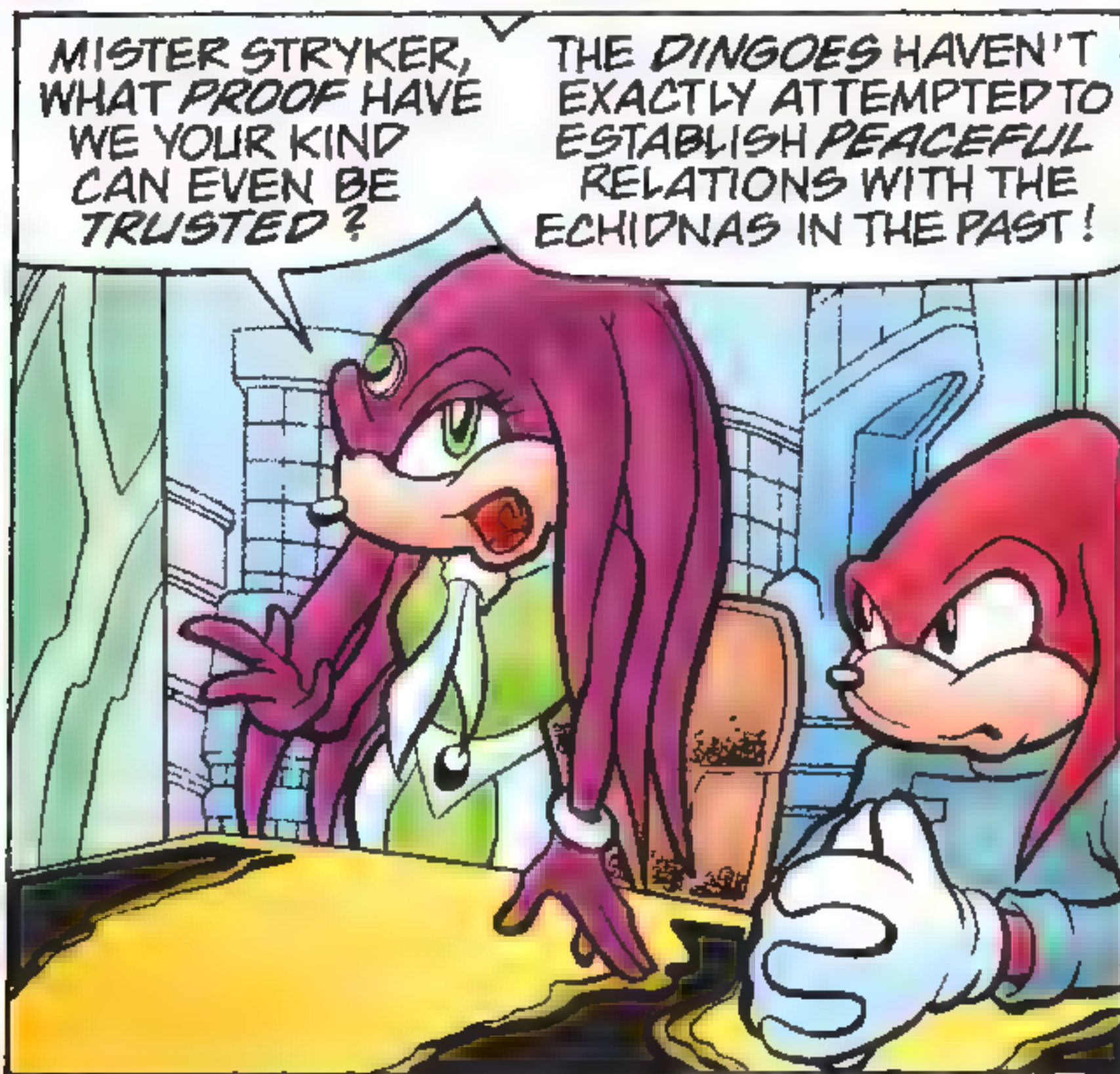
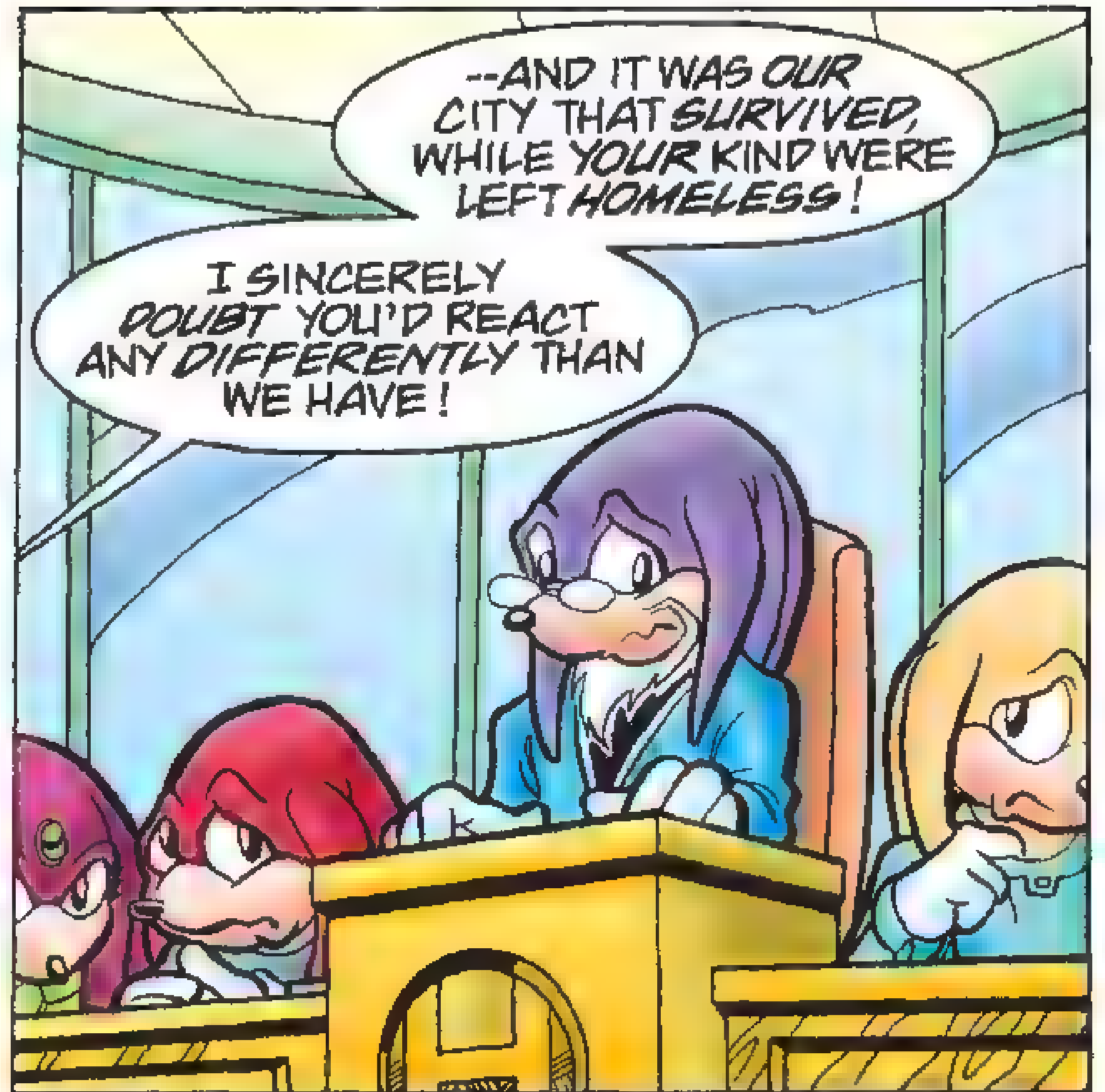
"I HAVE COME BEFORE THIS
ASSEMBLED BODY TO DISCUSS
A MATTER OF MOST URGENT
NEED FOR MY PEOPLE--

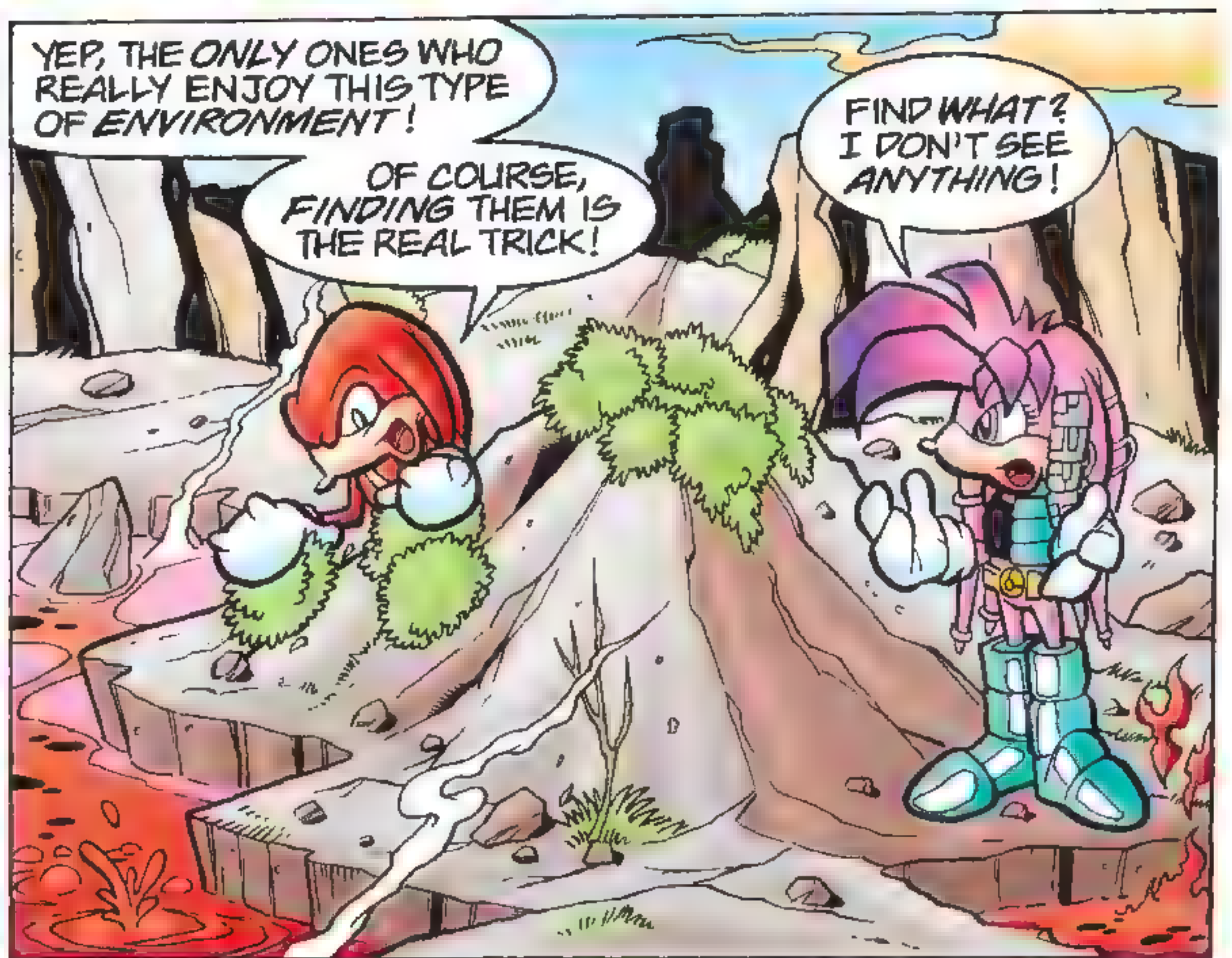
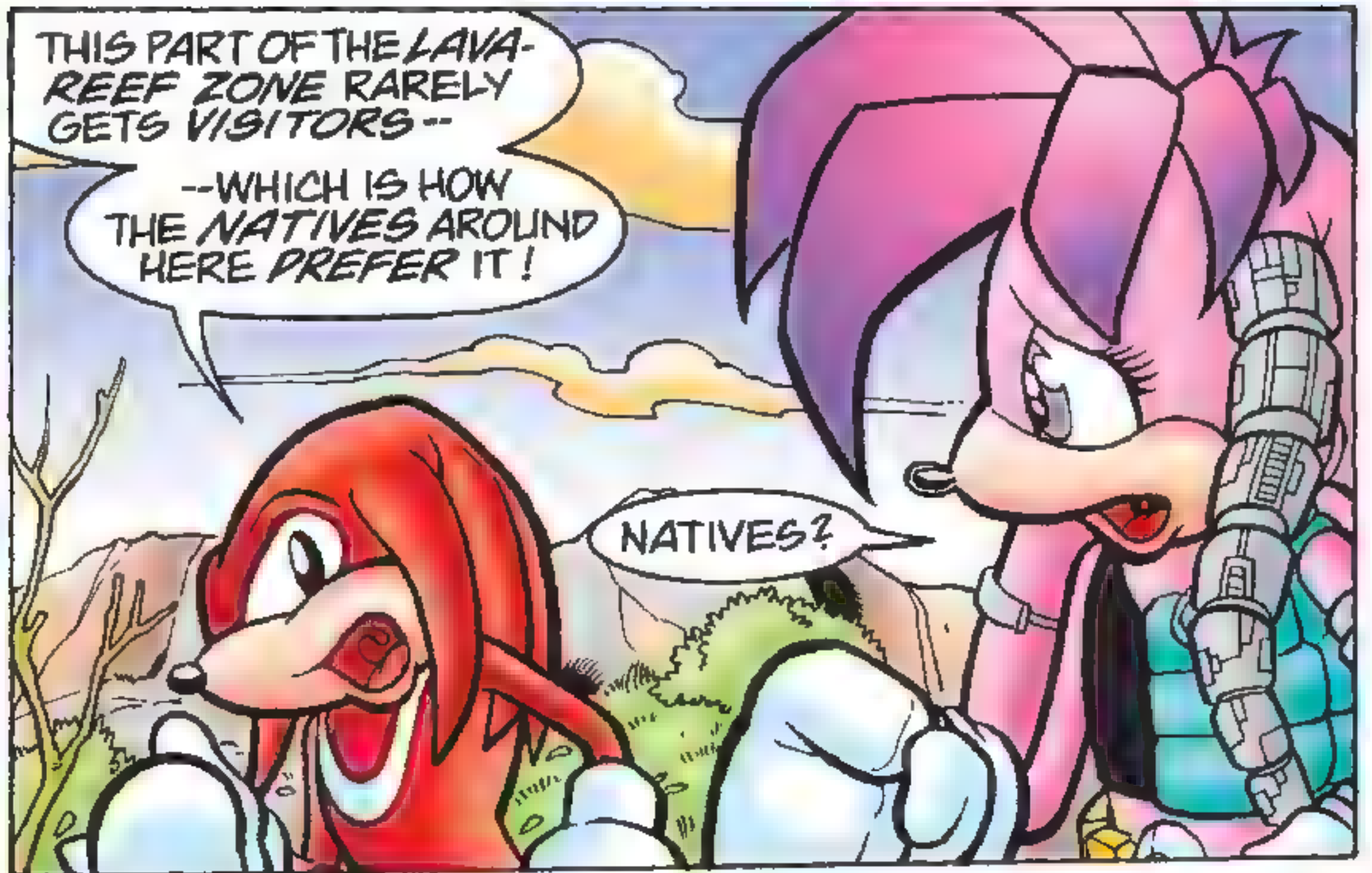
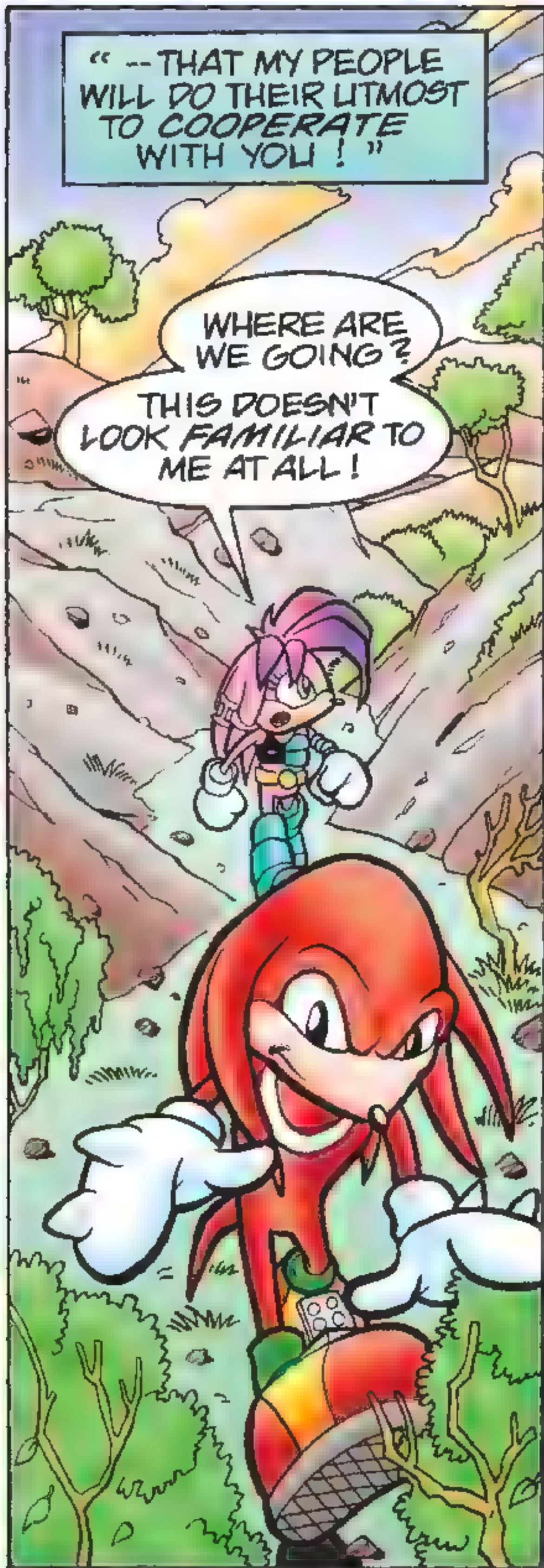


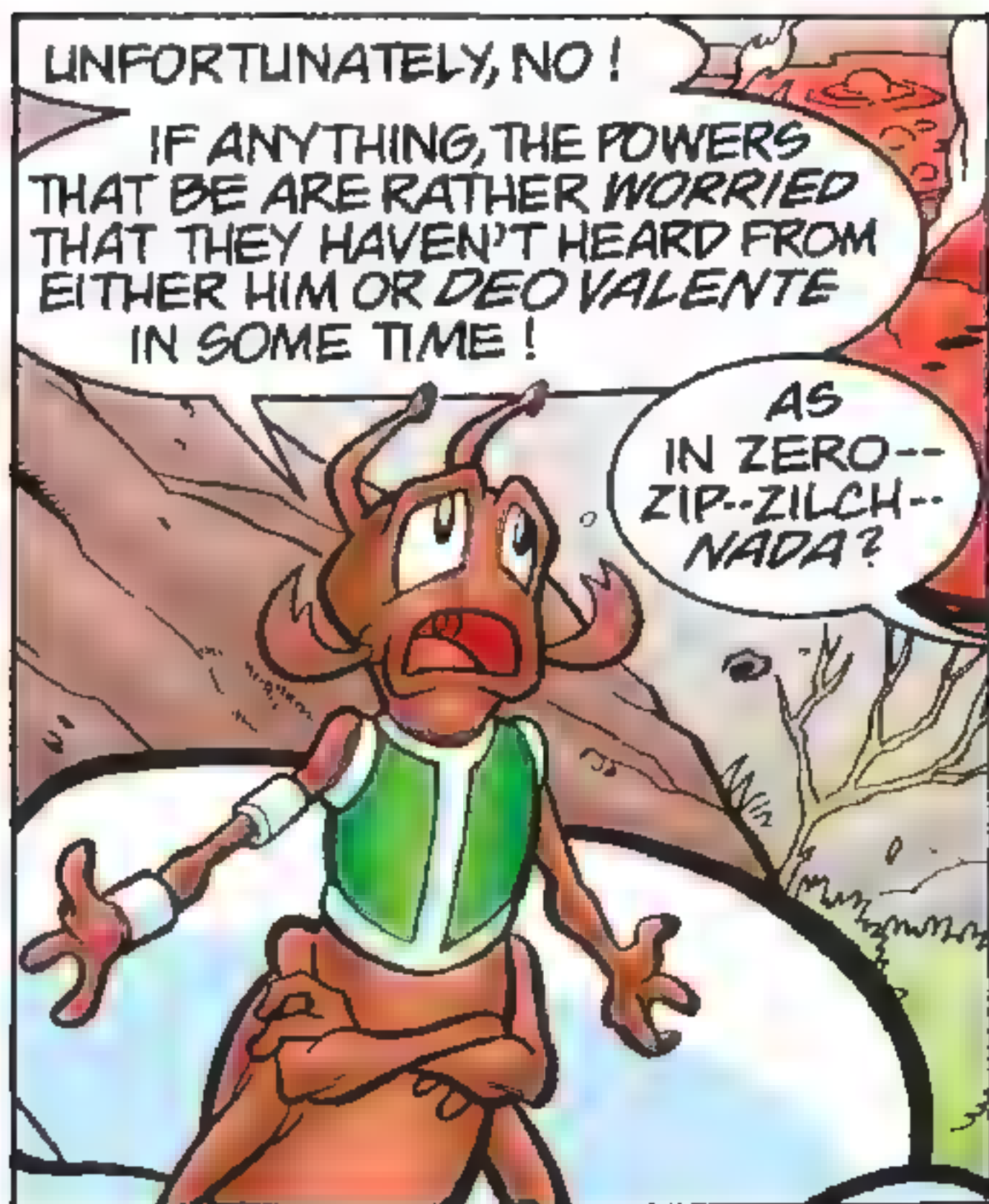
--REGARDING
THE ISSUE OF
HOUSING!

MY
PEOPLE ARE
TIRED OF
LIVING IN
TENTS!

I DEEPLY
SYMPATHIZE
WITH THEIR
PLIGHT--







UNFORTUNATELY, NO!

IF ANYTHING, THE POWERS
THAT BE ARE RATHER WORRIED
THAT THEY HAVEN'T HEARD FROM
EITHER HIM OR DEO VALENTE
IN SOME TIME!

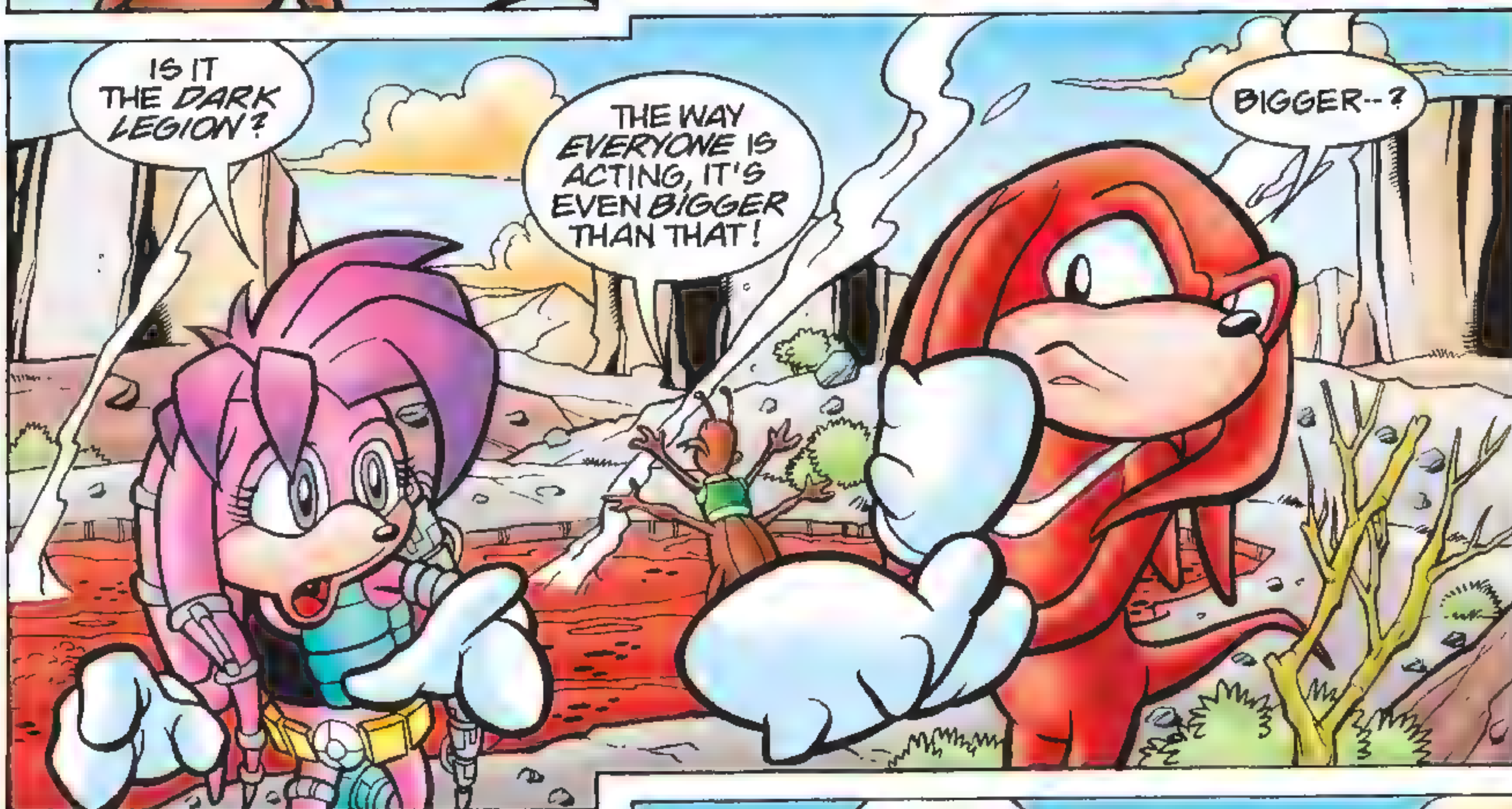
AS
IN ZERO--
ZIP--ZILCH--
NADA?



YOU GOT
IT!

THAT DOESN'T
SOUND GOOD!

NO KIDDING!
YOU'RE TALKING MAJOR
UNDERSTATEMENT
HERE!



IS IT
THE DARK
LEGION?

THE WAY
EVERYONE IS
ACTING, IT'S
EVEN BIGGER
THAN THAT!

BIGGER--?



THE ONLY ONES I CAN
THINK OF MORE
POWERFUL THAN THE
LEGION ARE A LONG
WAY FROM HERE!

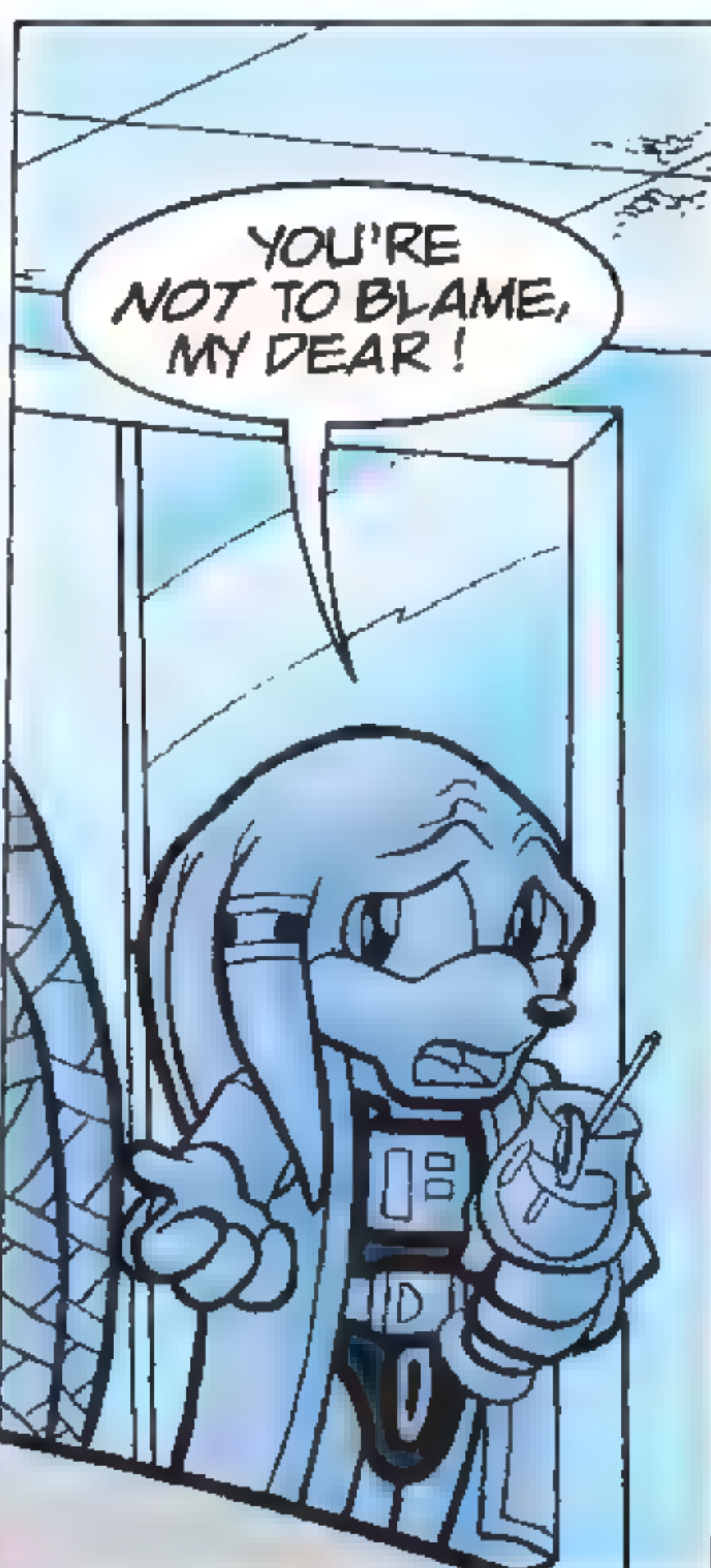
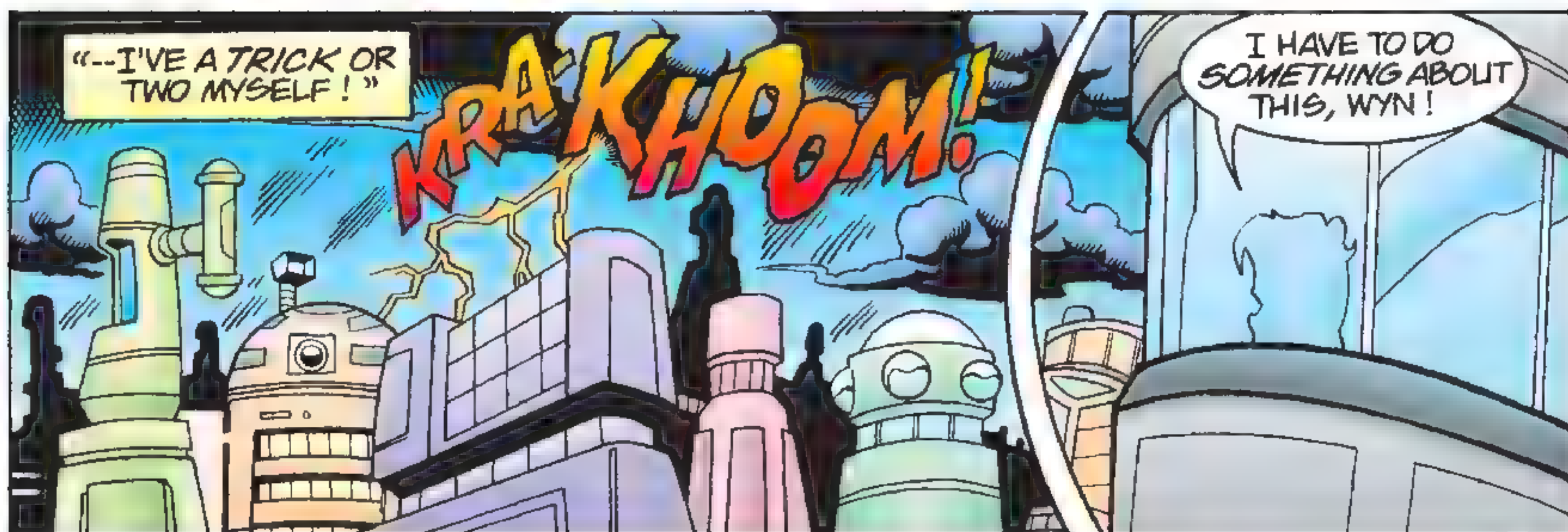
WATCH YOUR
BACK THEN,
LAD!

THERE'S
NOTHING MORE
DANGEROUS THAN
AN ENEMY WITH
A SURPRISE
ADVANTAGE!



I HEAR
THAT!

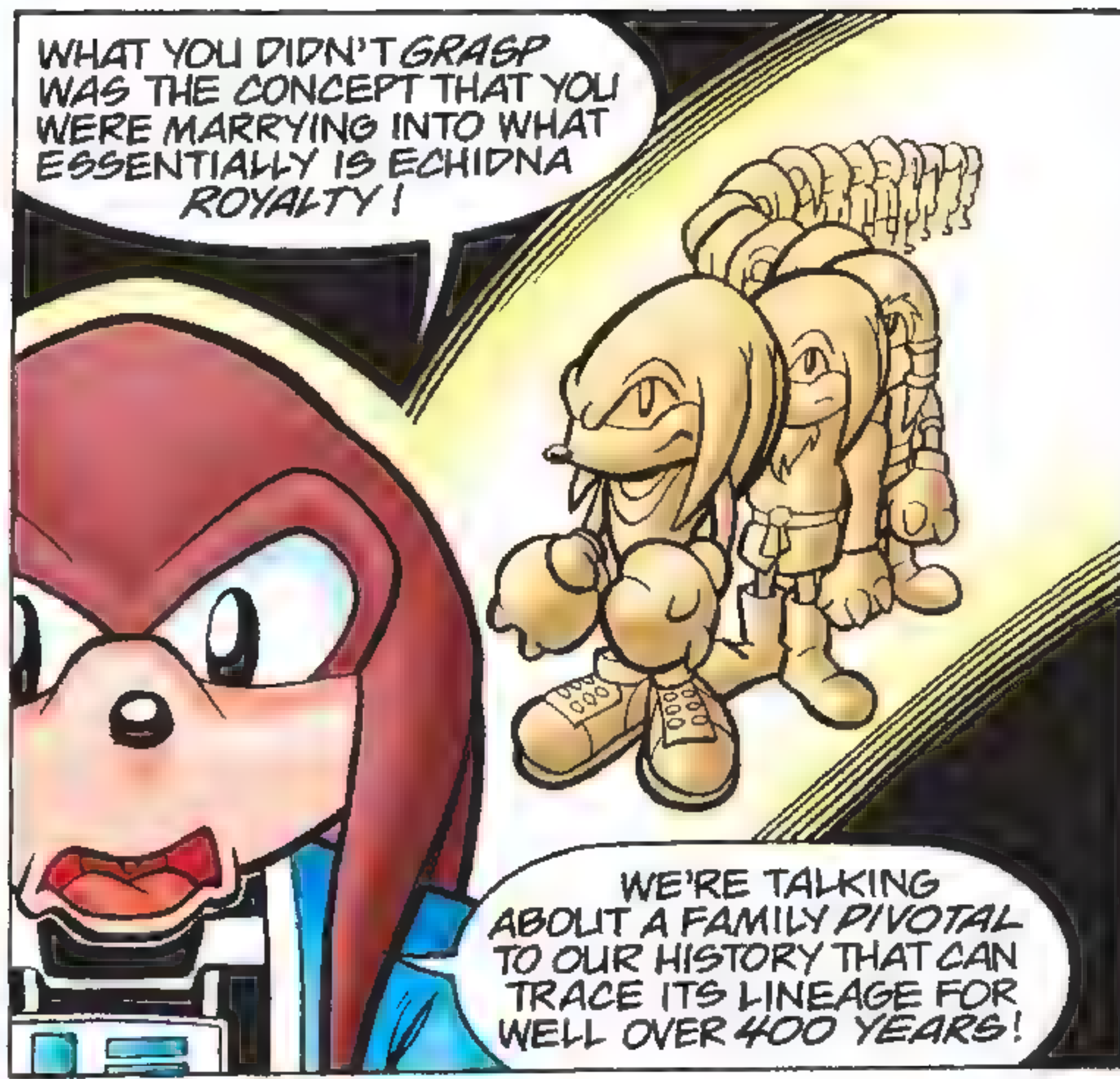
AS FOR
SURPRISES--





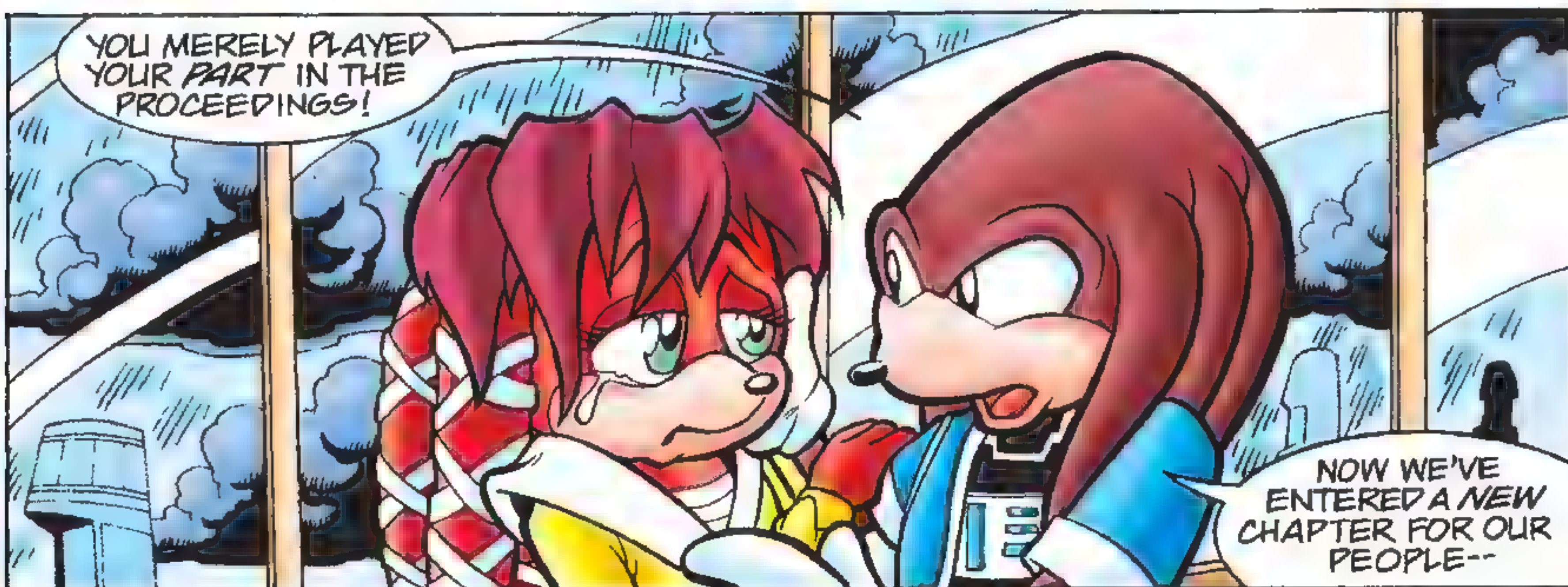
--AND THIS IS NOW!

YOU WERE YOUNG AND IMPULSIVE AND YOU THOUGHT YOU'D MAKE A DIFFERENCE!



WHAT YOU DIDN'T GRASP WAS THE CONCEPT THAT YOU WERE MARRYING INTO WHAT ESSENTIALLY IS ECHIDNA ROYALTY!

WE'RE TALKING ABOUT A FAMILY PIVOTAL TO OUR HISTORY THAT CAN TRACE ITS LINEAGE FOR WELL OVER 400 YEARS!



YOU MERELY PLAYED YOUR PART IN THE PROCEEDINGS!

NOW WE'VE ENTERED A NEW CHAPTER FOR OUR PEOPLE--

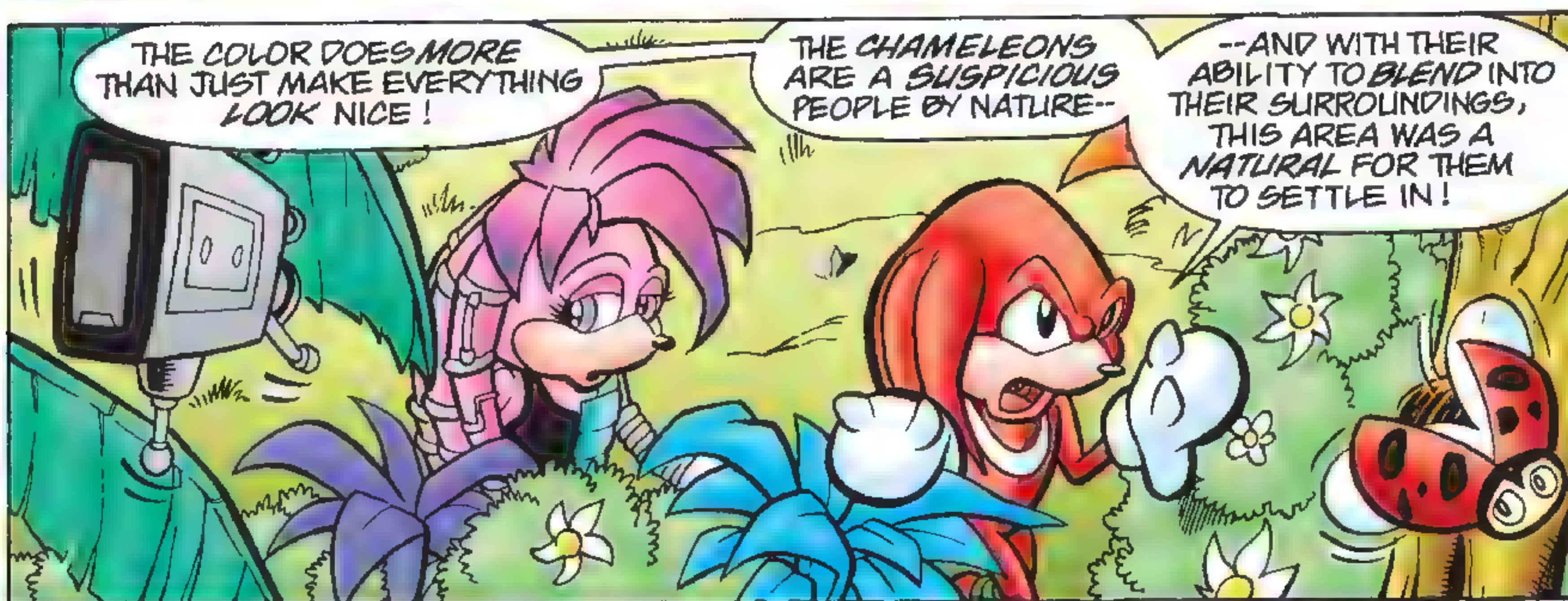
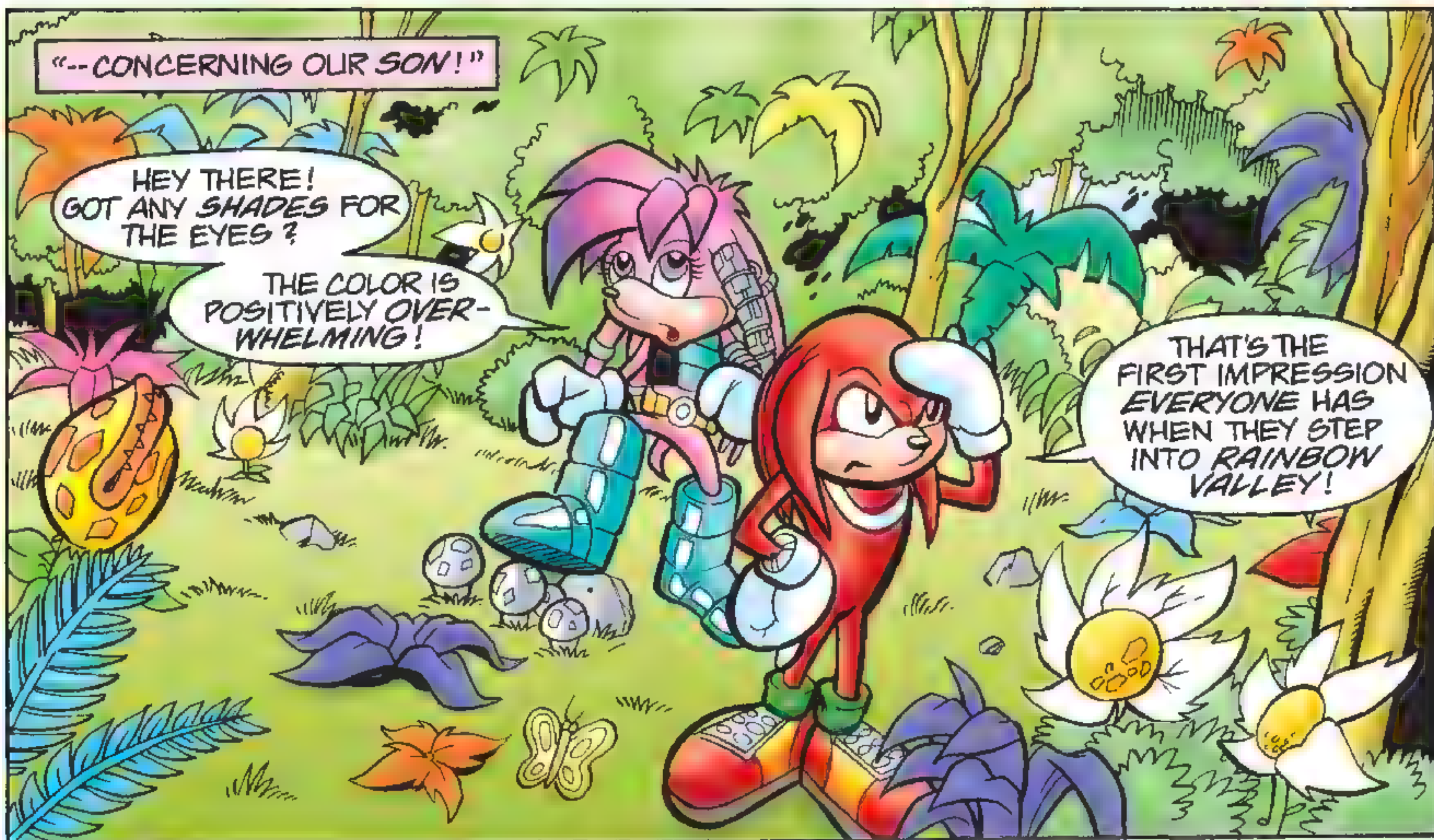


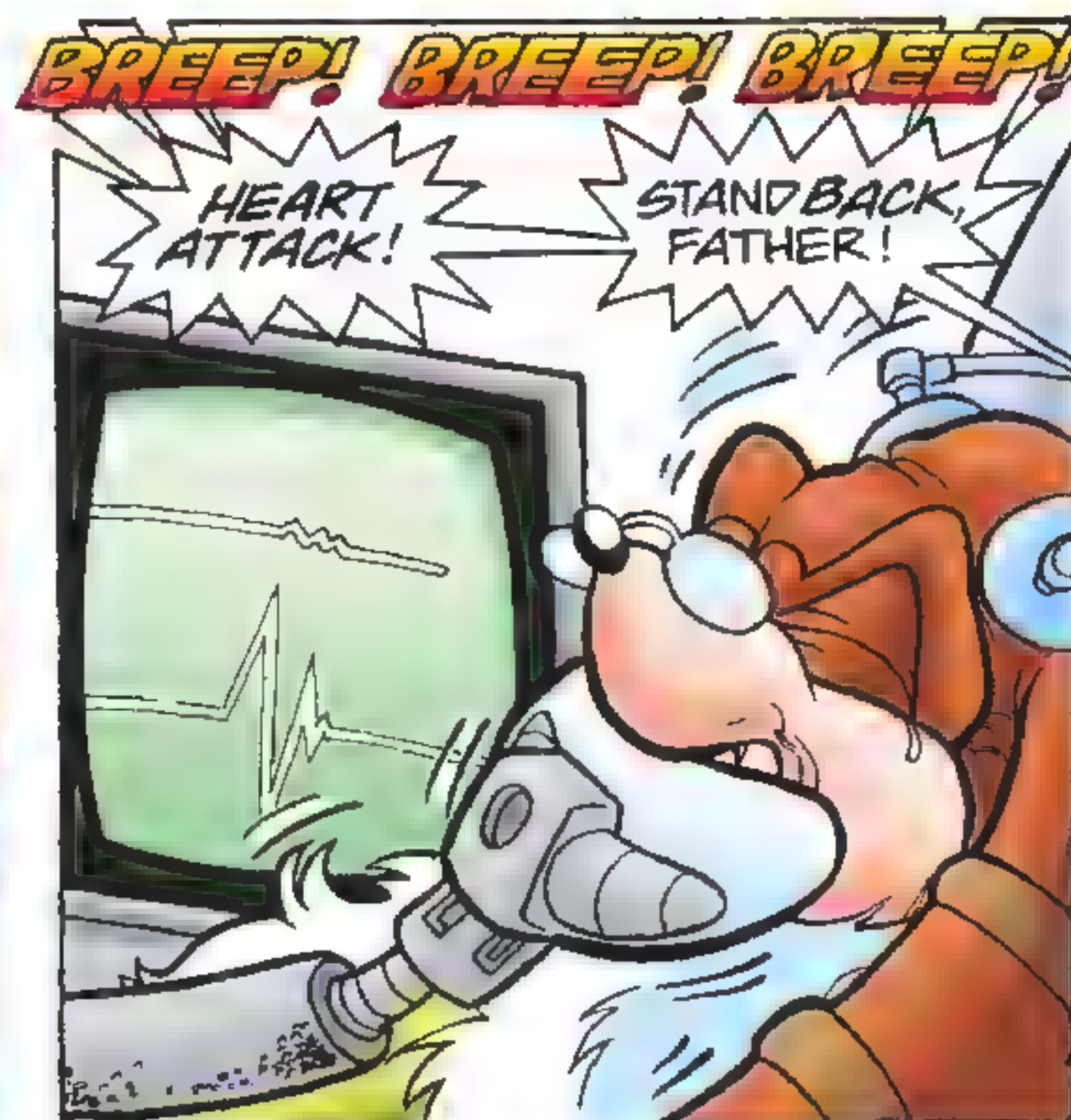
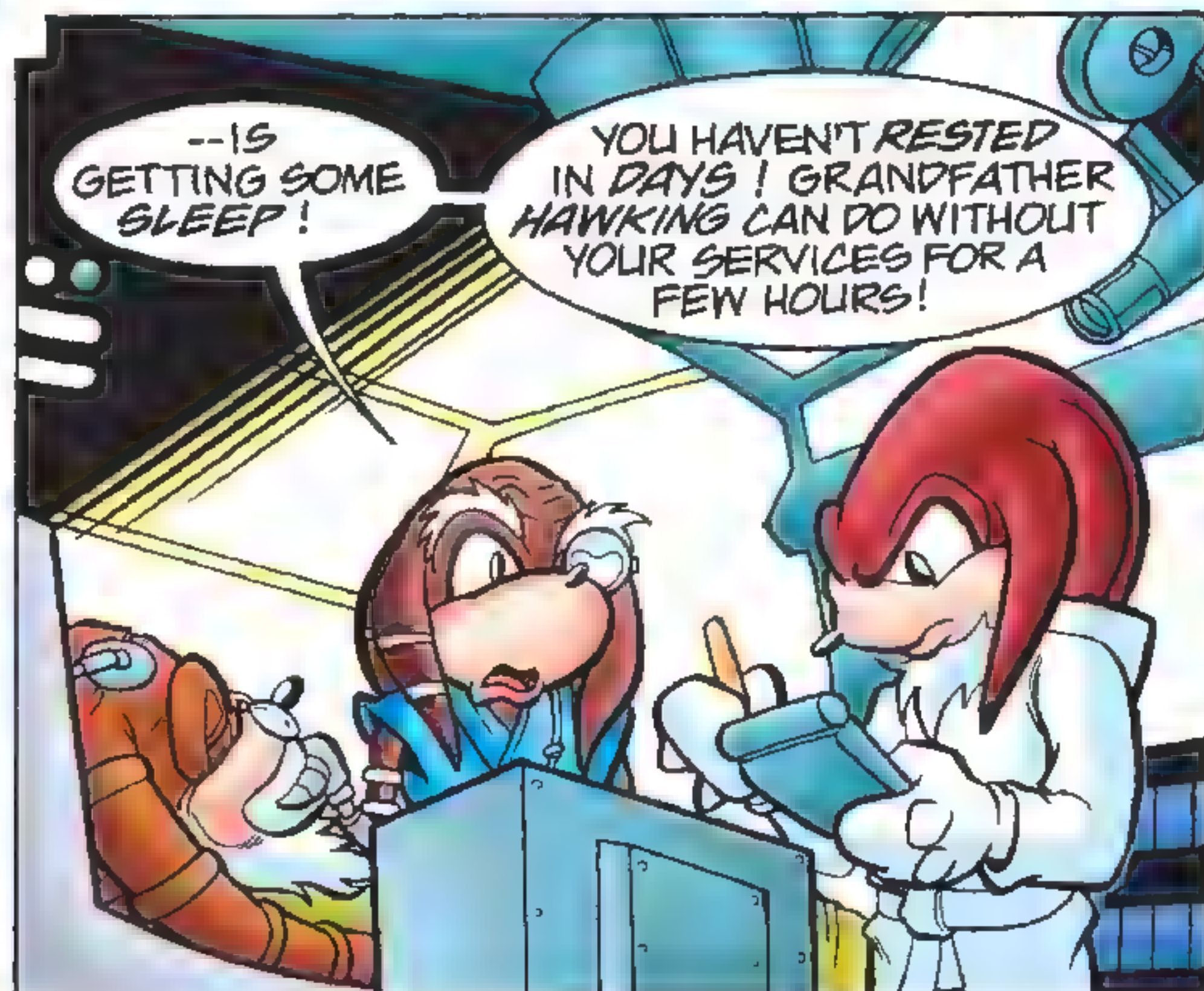
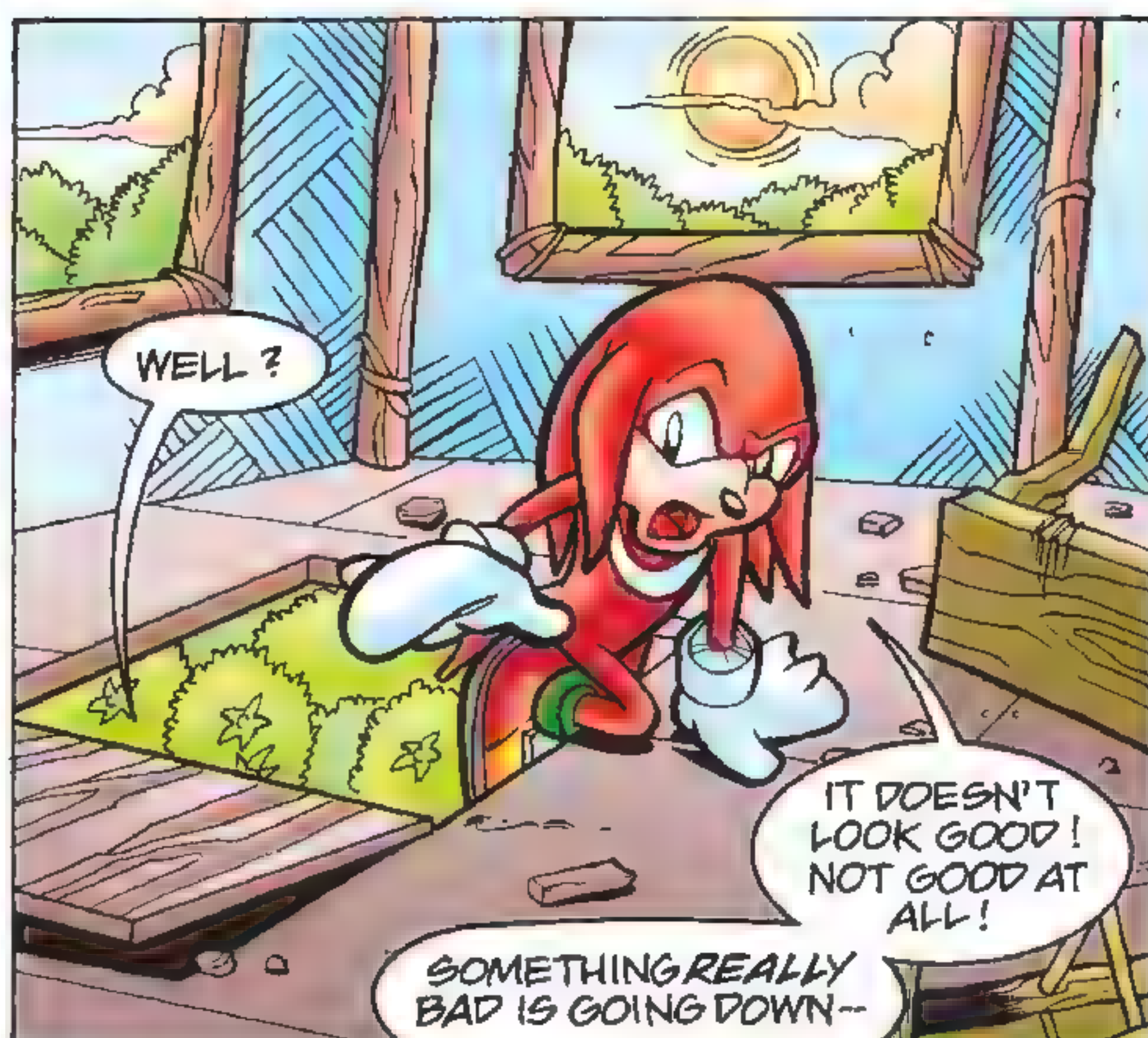
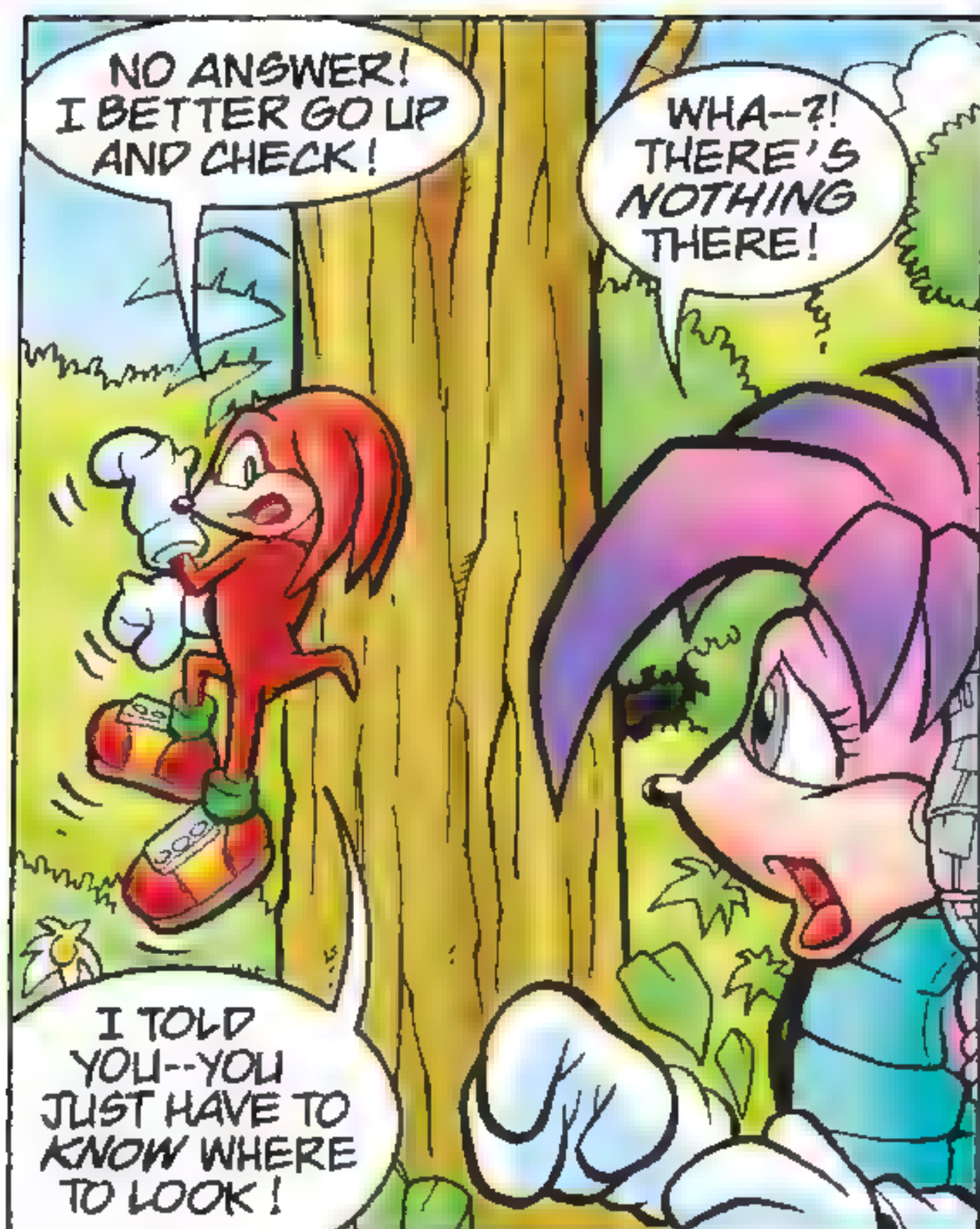
--AND WE'LL ADAPT TO THE CHANGE, JUST AS WE ALWAYS HAVE IN THE PAST!

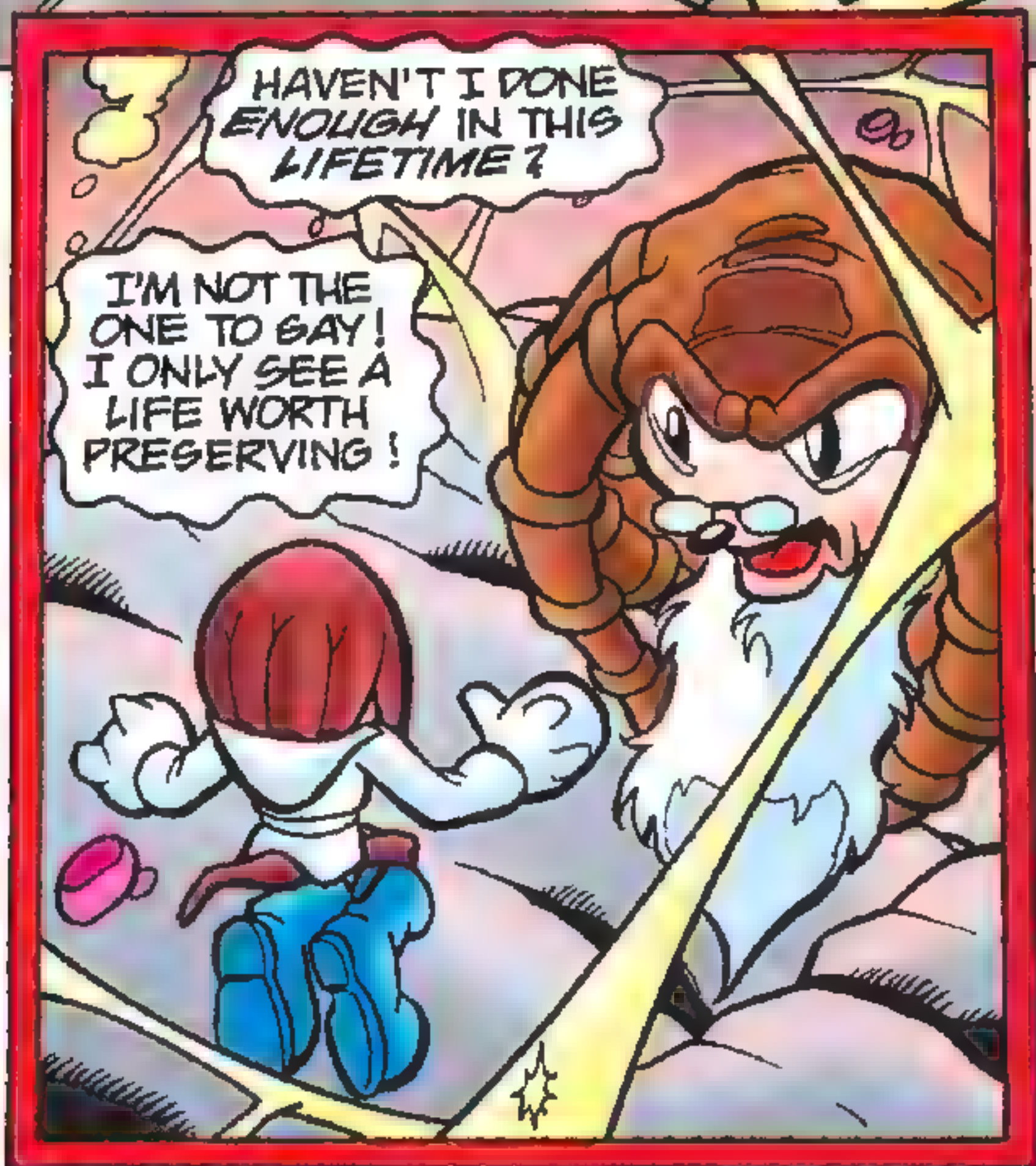
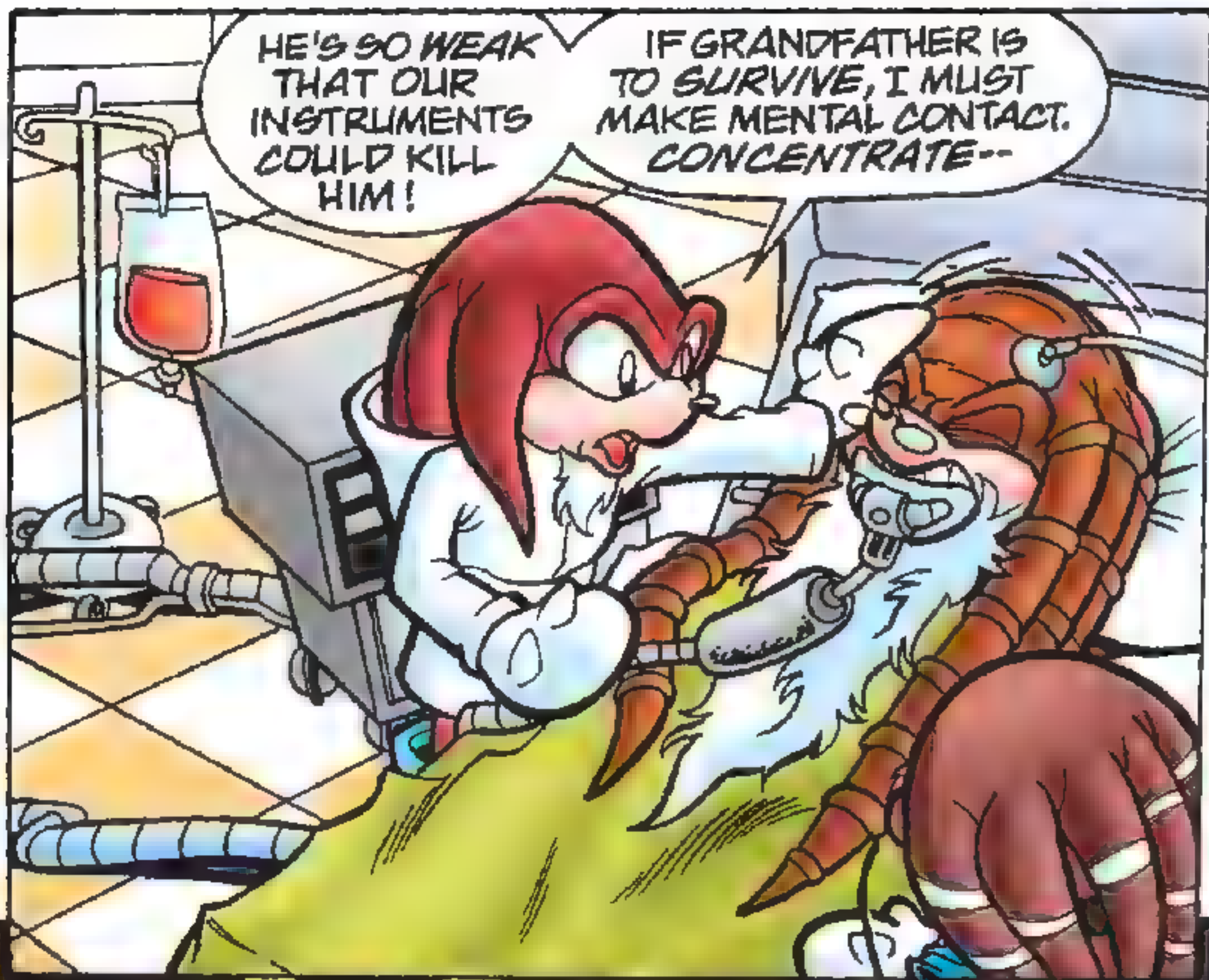
THE QUESTION NOW IS HOW YOU WILL DEAL WITH IT!

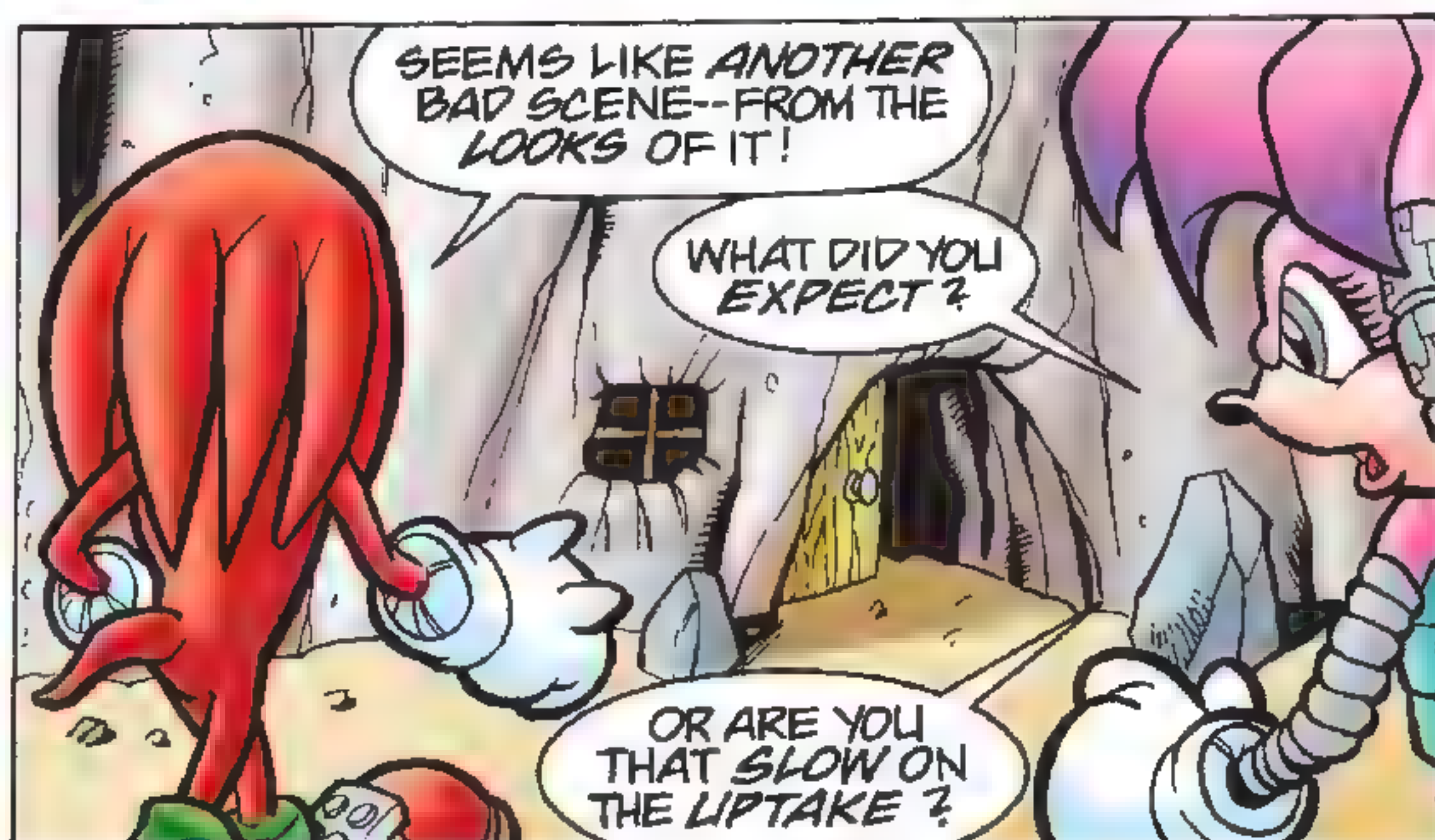
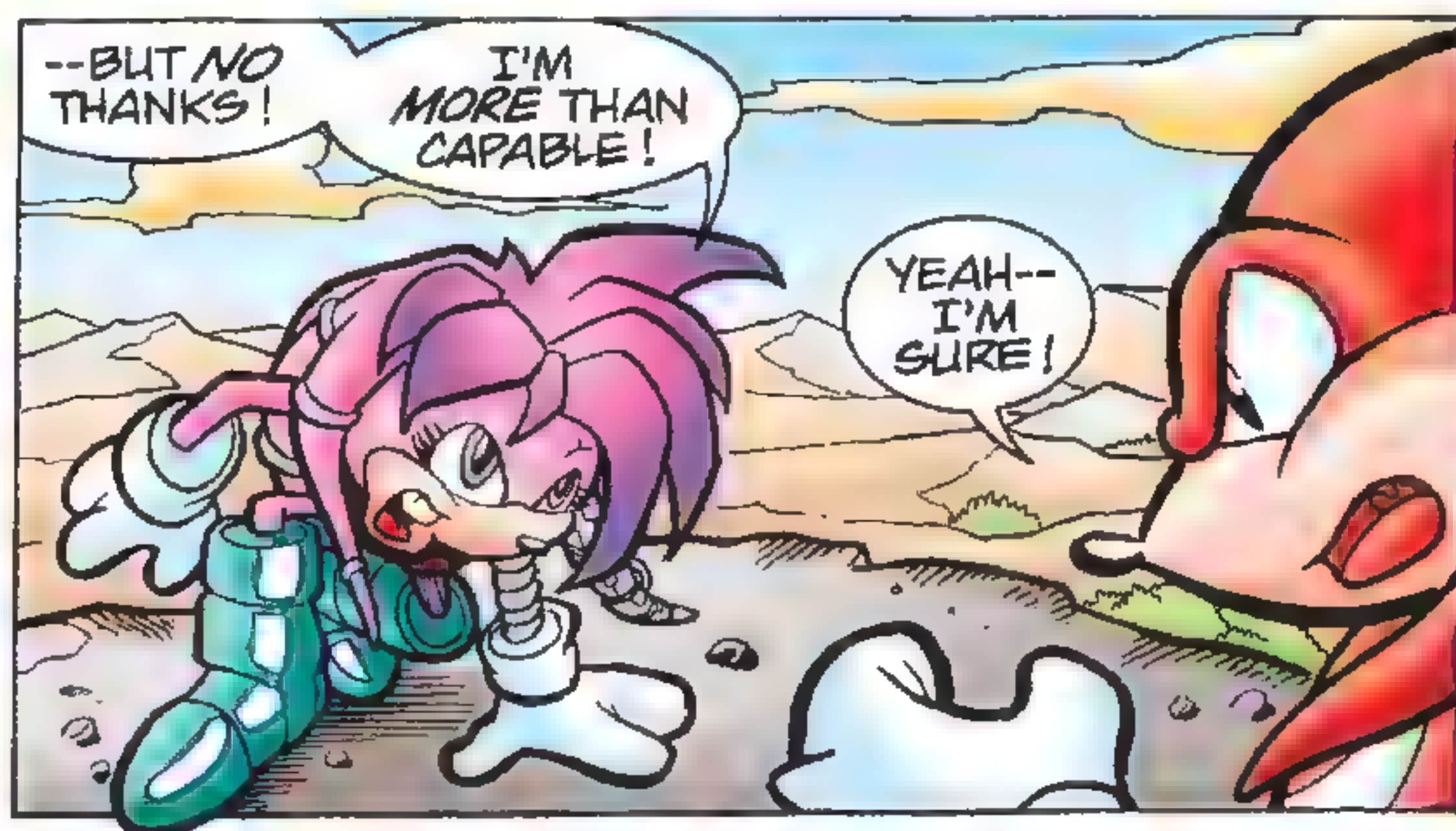
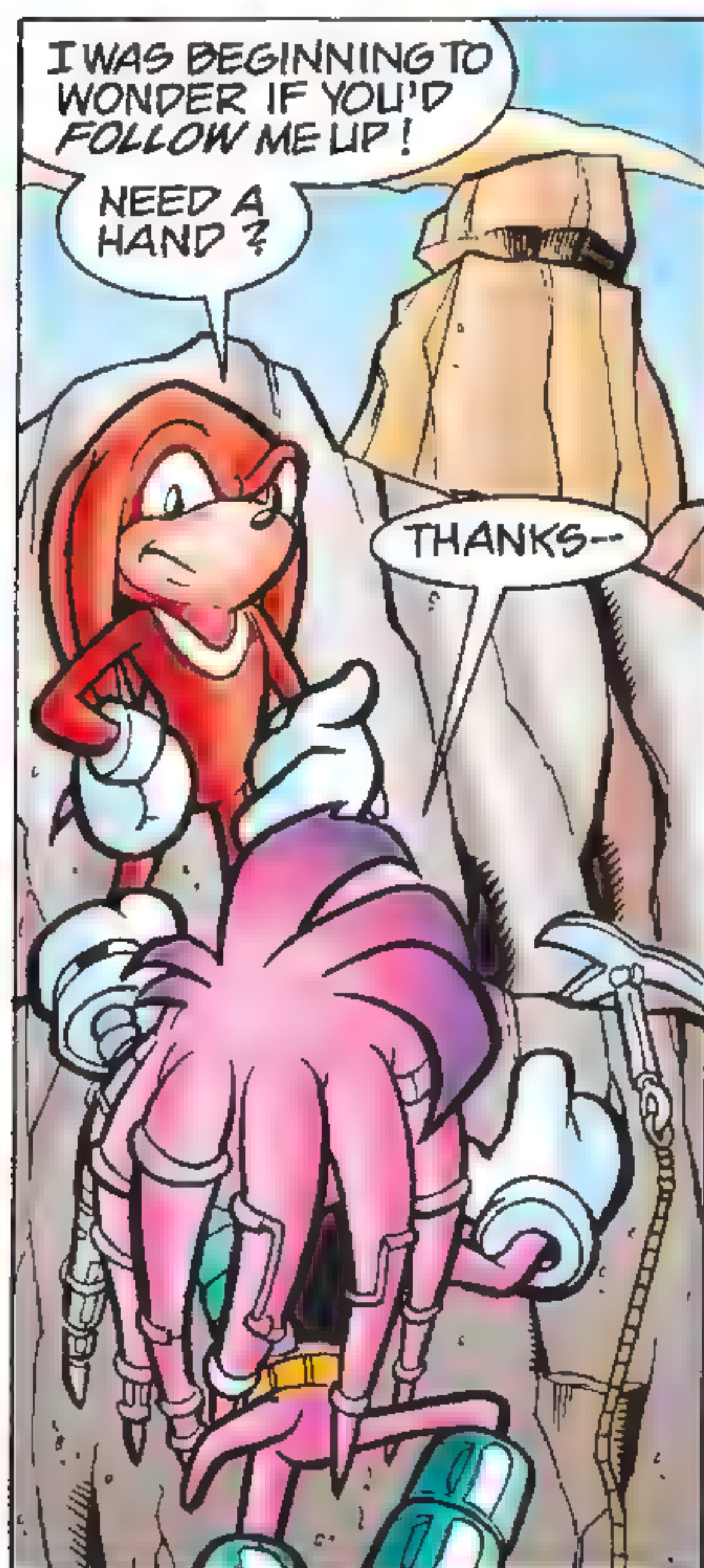
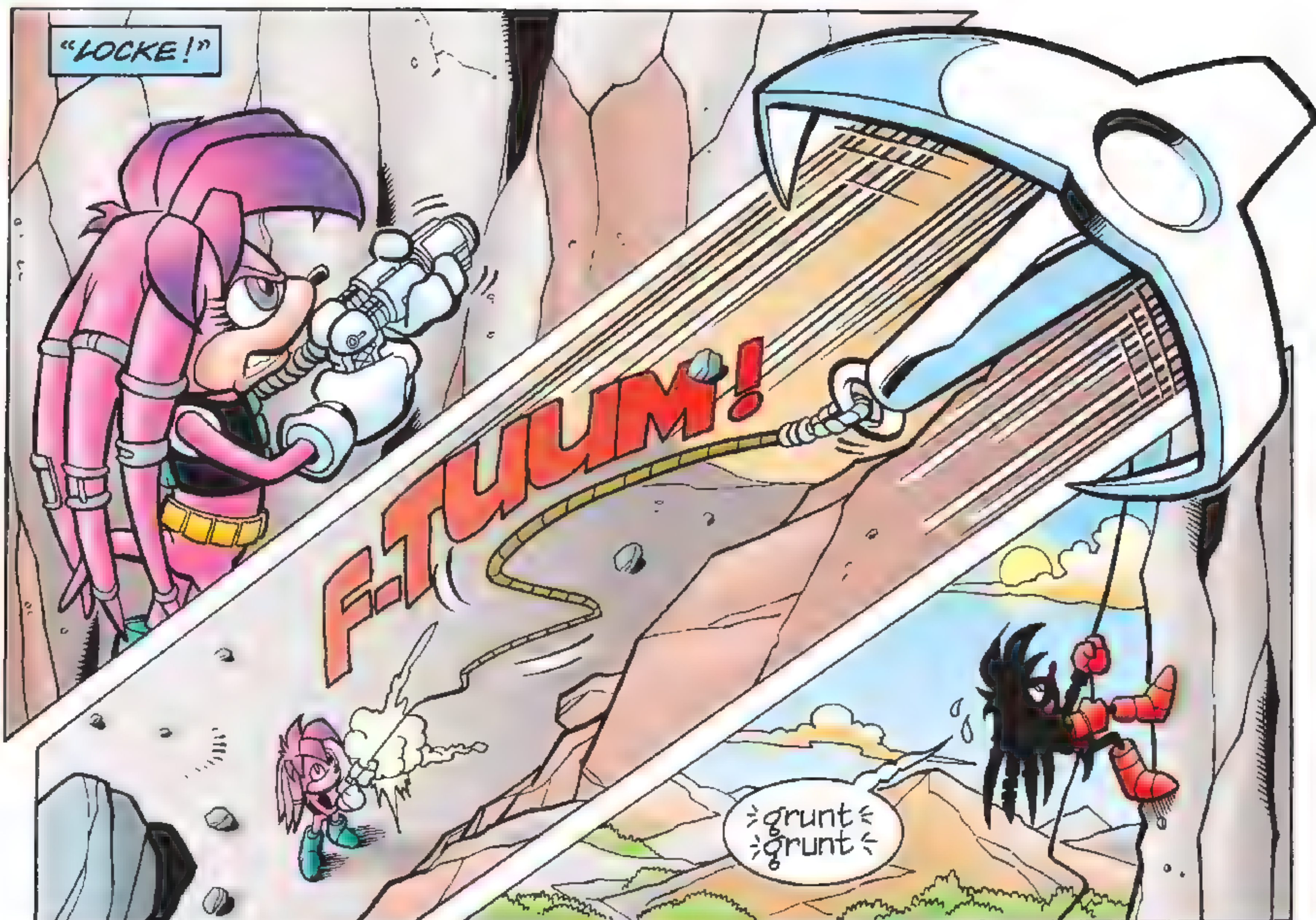


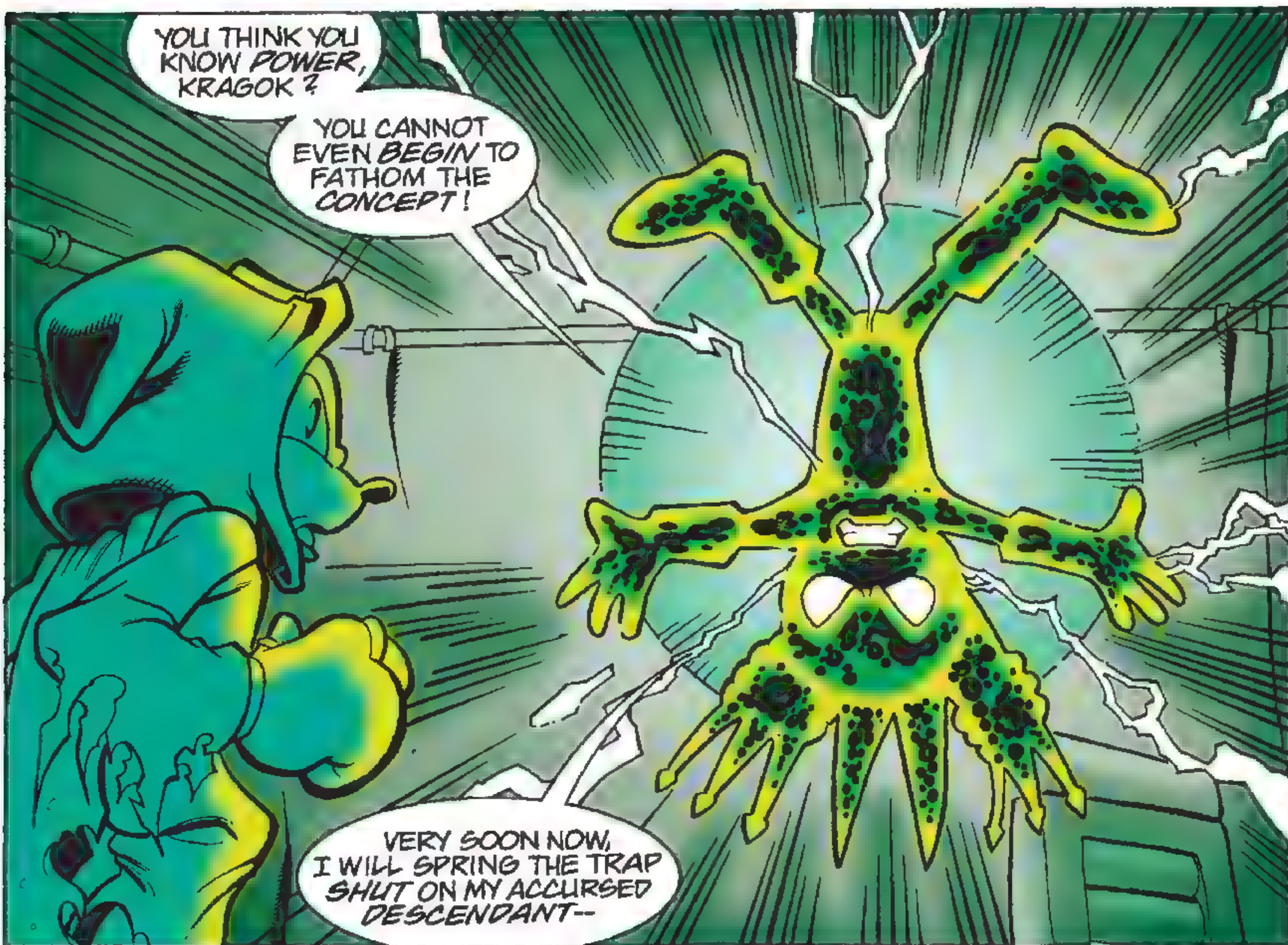
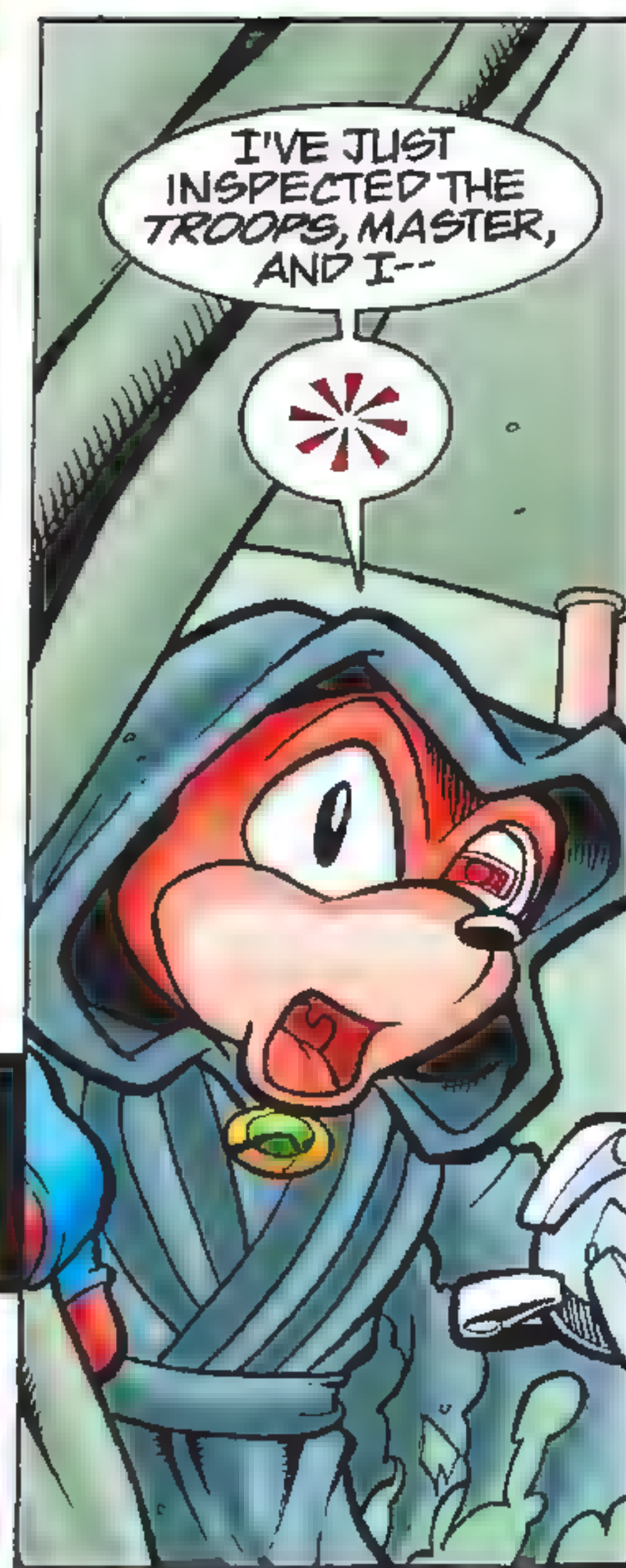
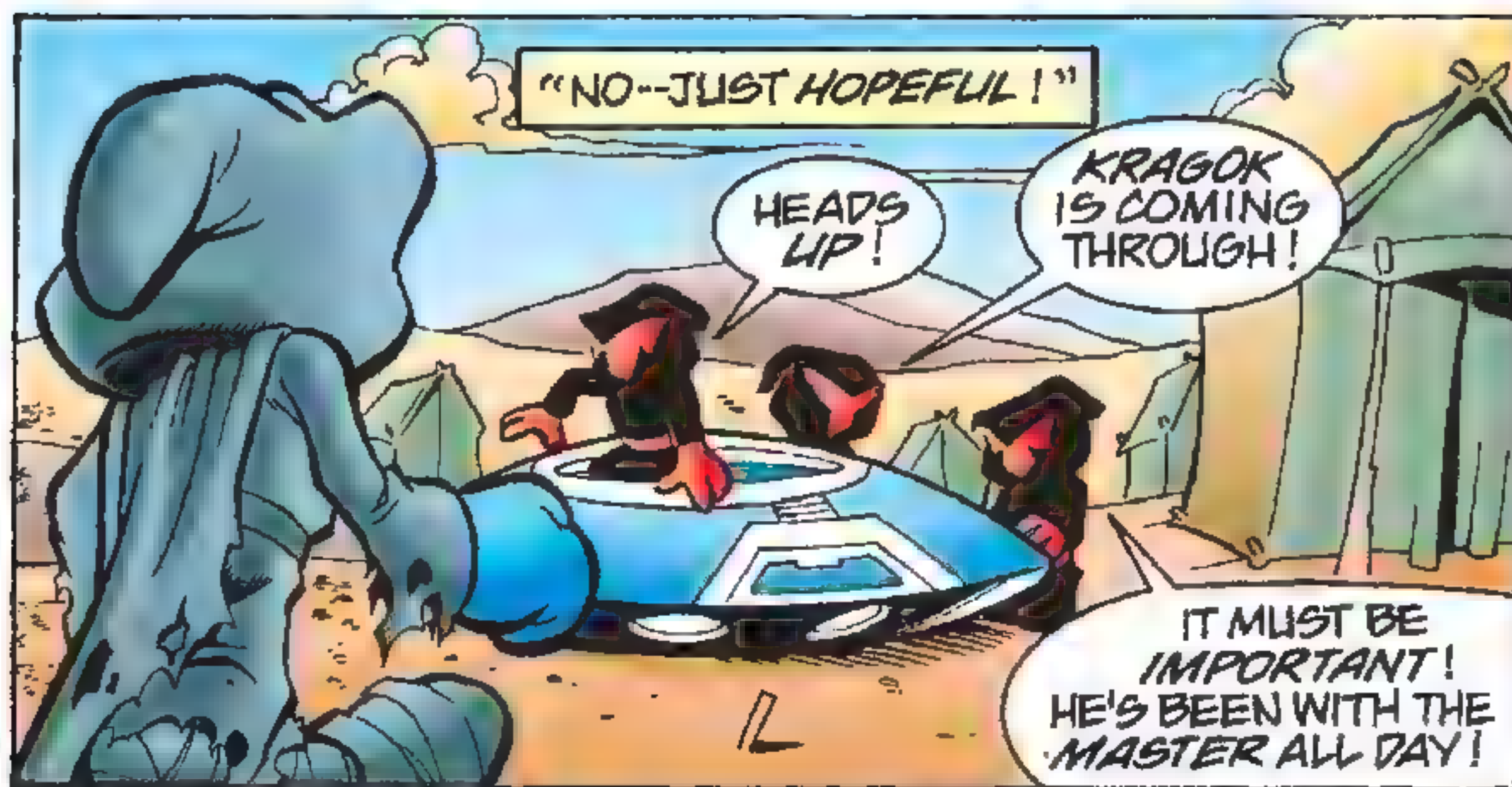
I BELIEVE IT'S TIME I HAD A LONG OVERDUE DISCUSSION WITH HIS FATHER--

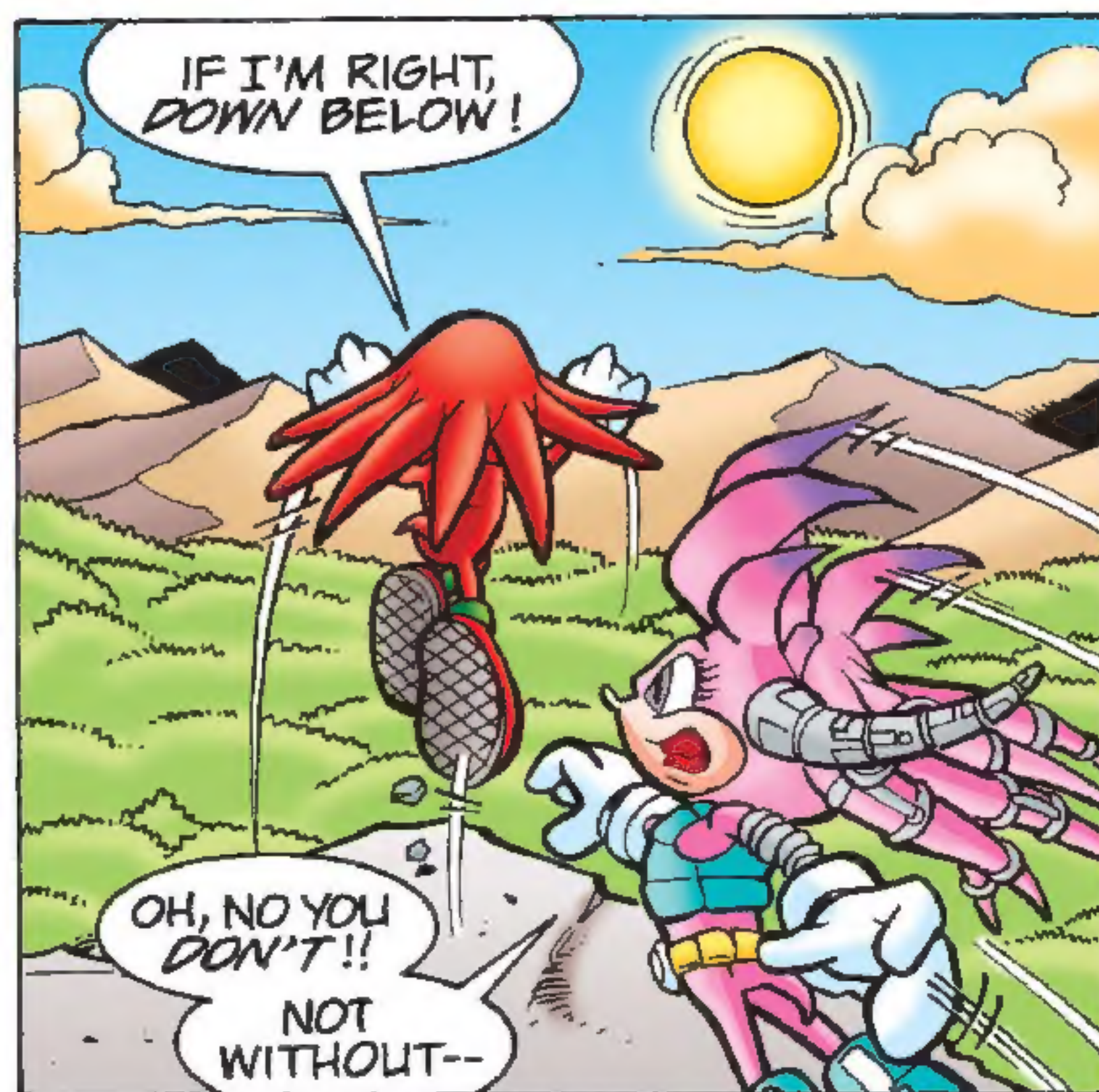
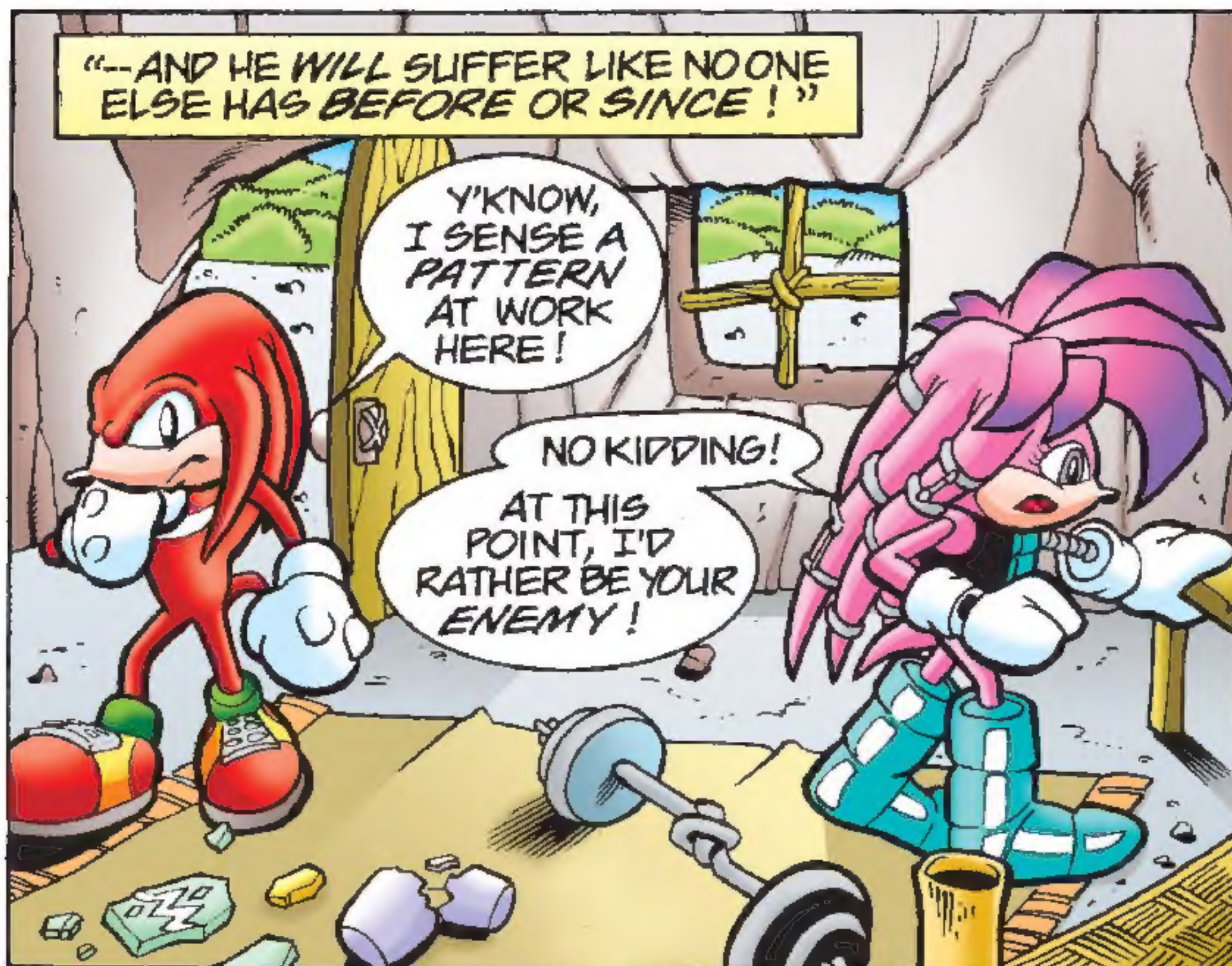


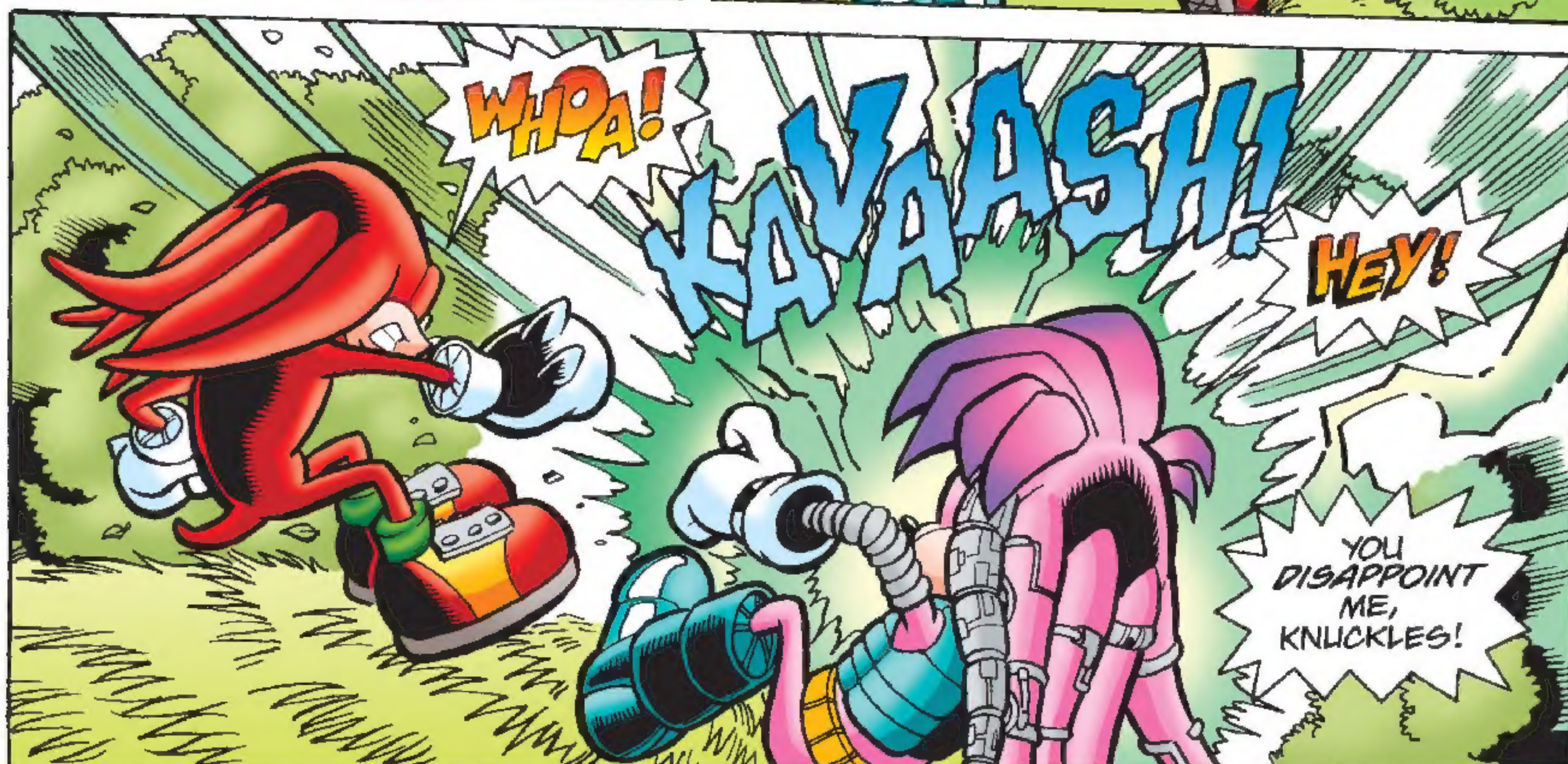
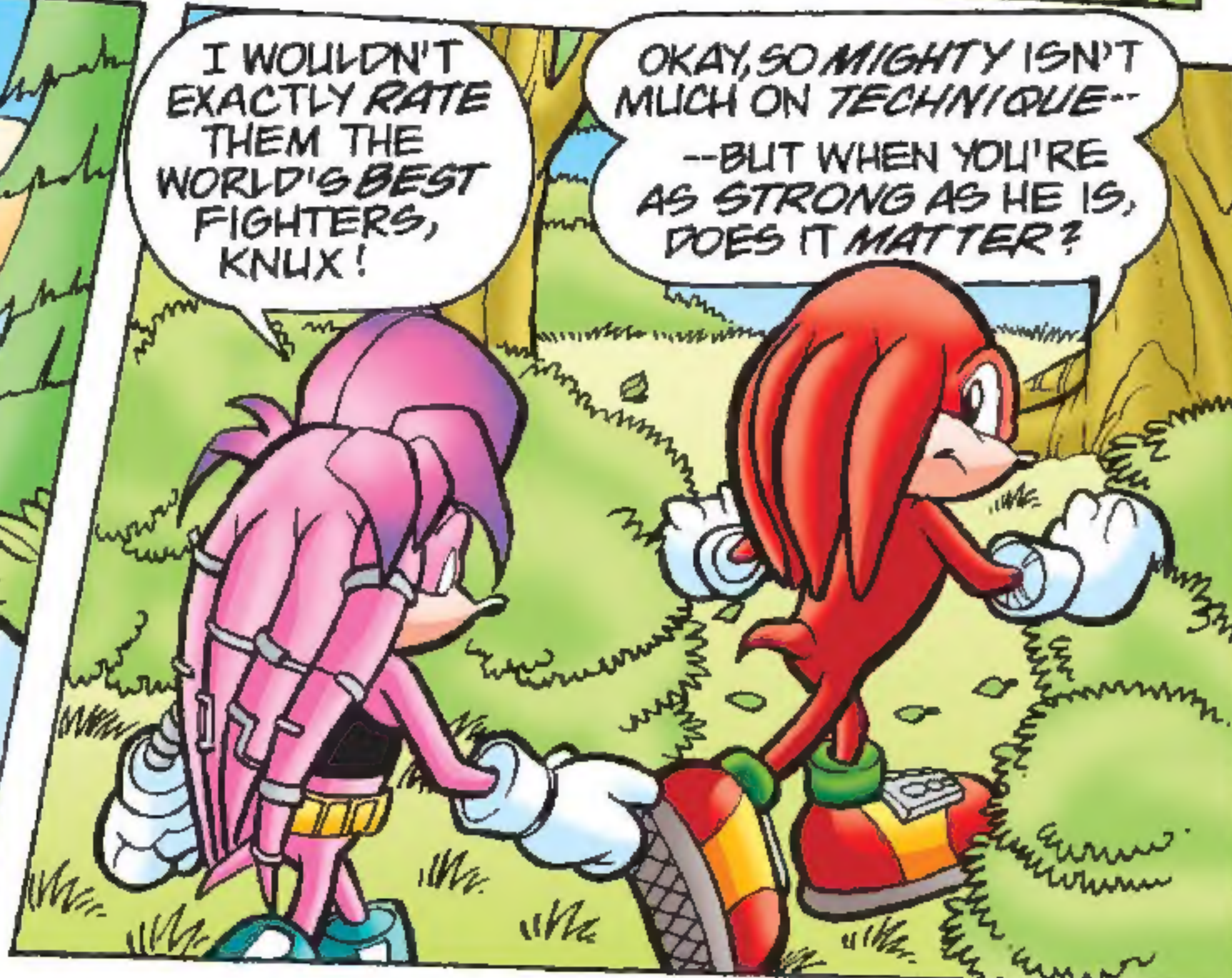
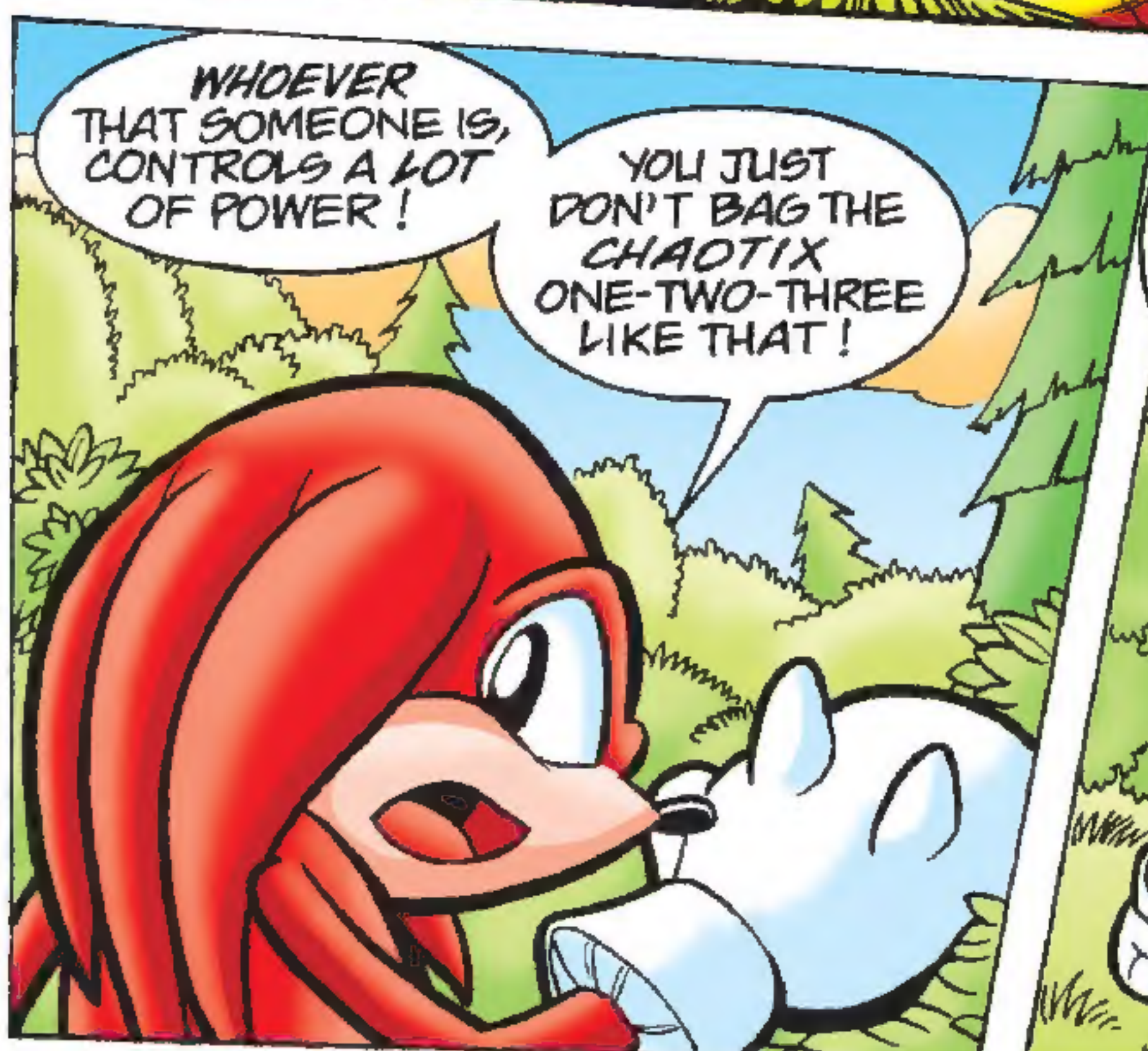
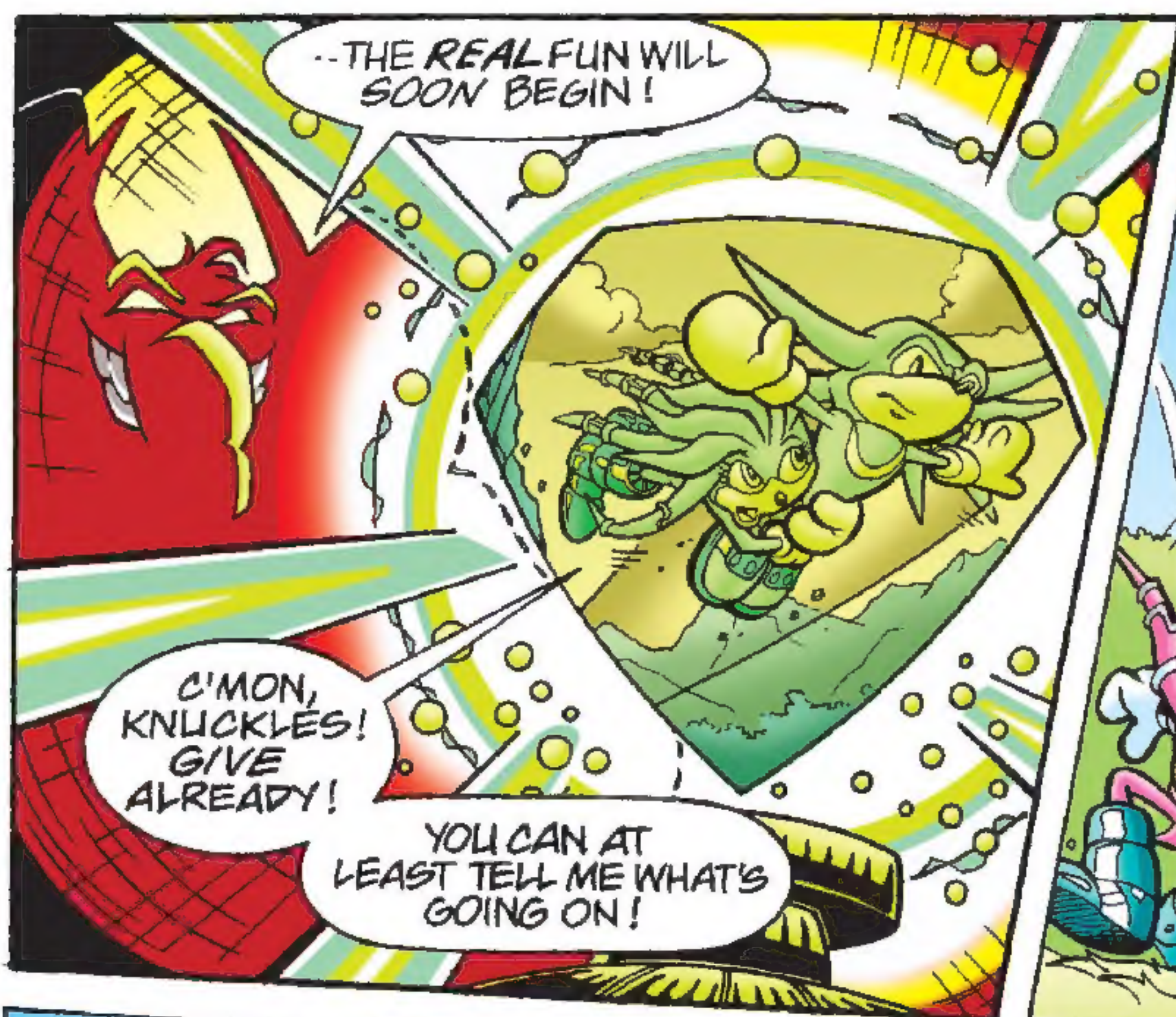


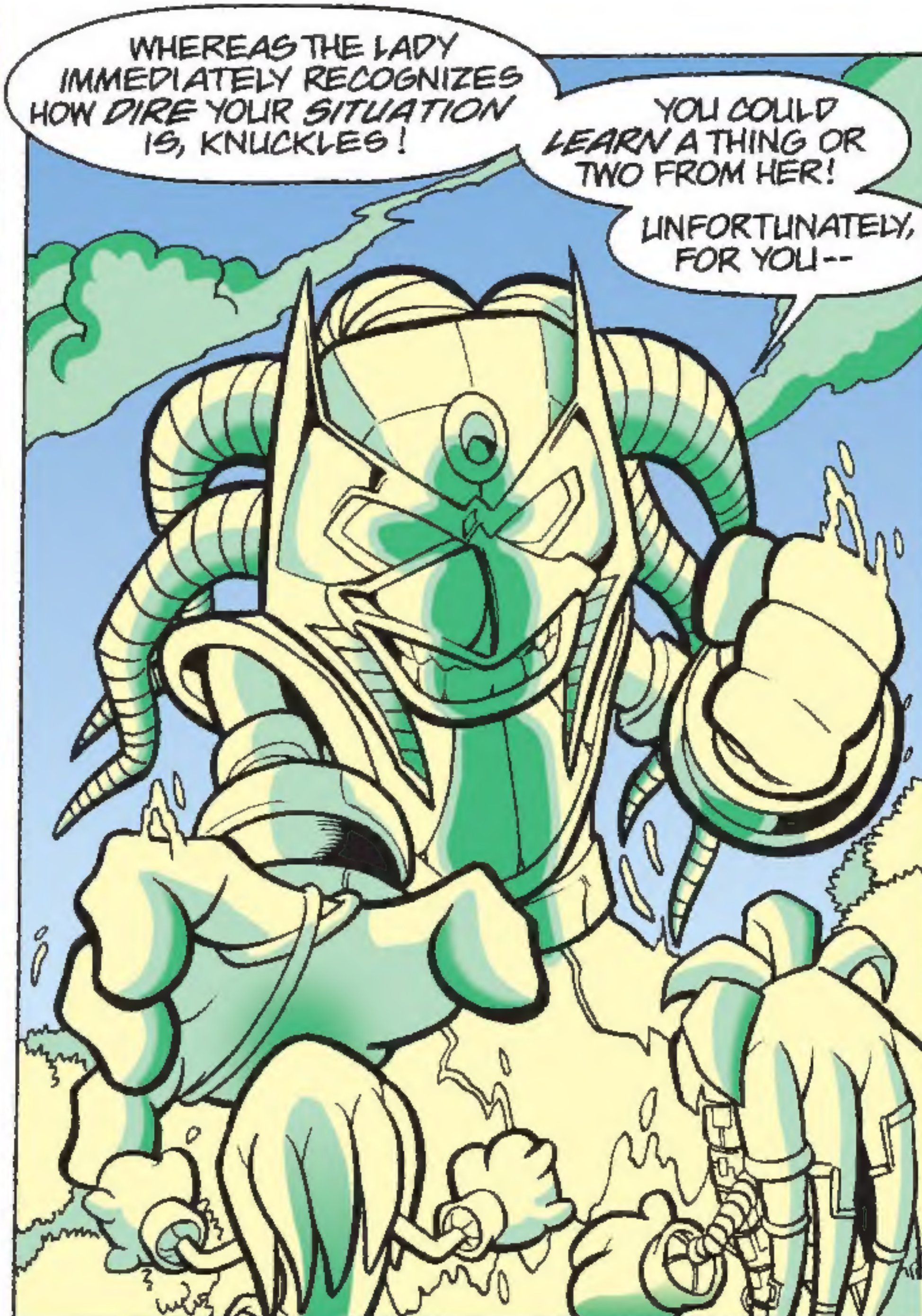
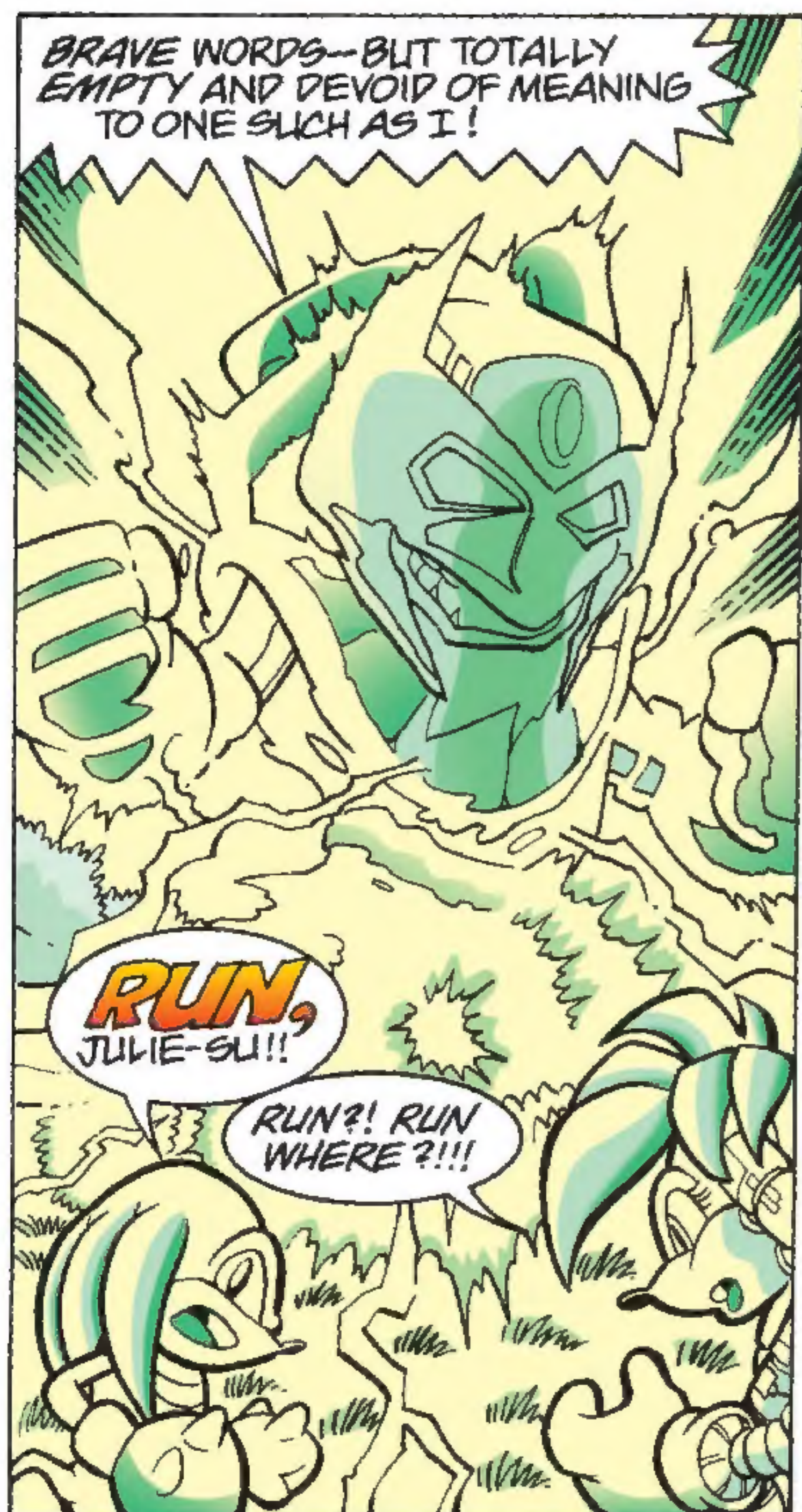
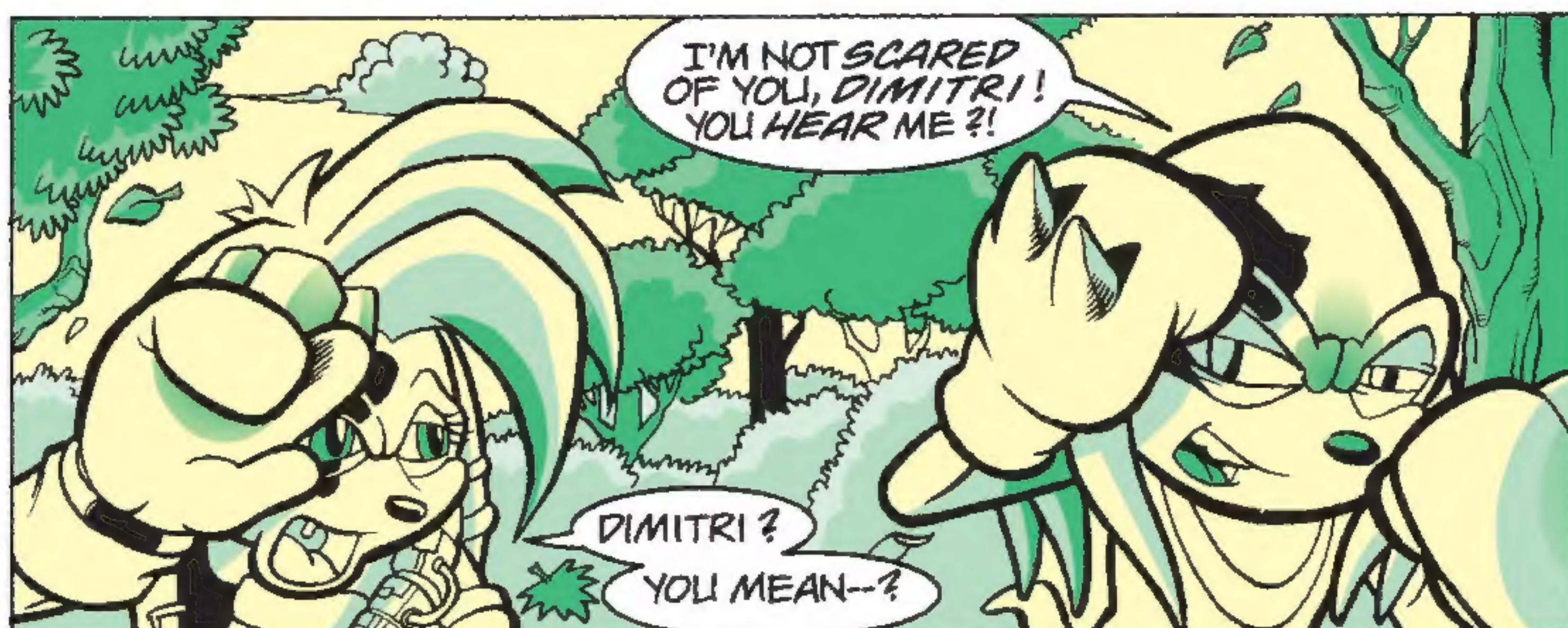


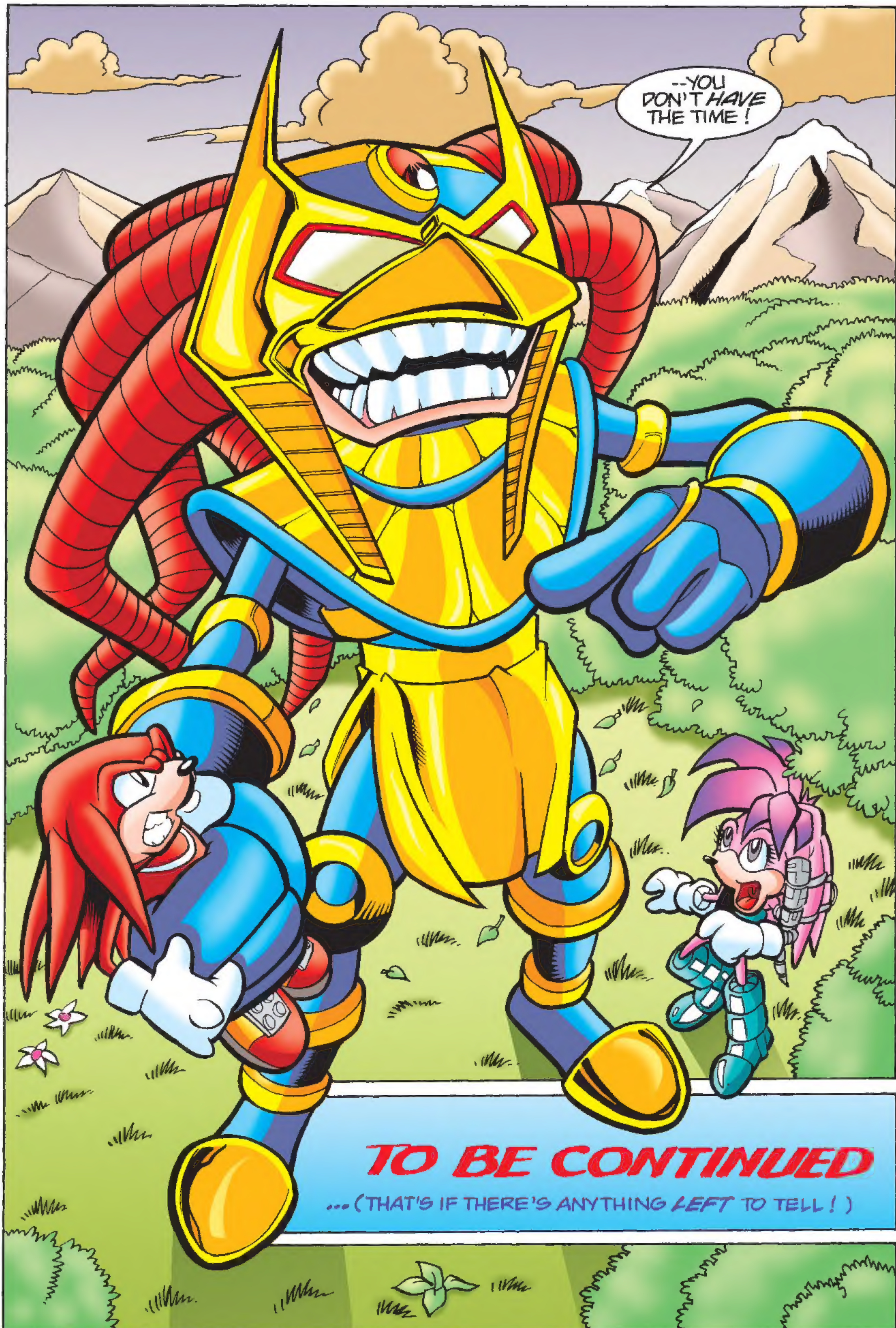












TO BE CONTINUED

... (THAT'S IF THERE'S ANYTHING LEFT TO TELL!)